TOUCH

タッチ

9

あだち充

TOUCH タッチ 9

Shonen Sunday Comics

あだち充

★★

小学館

SSC—659

Shonen Sunday Comics

小学館

★★定価 360円

TOUCH

★なんだかんだいわれつつも、練習試合に初先発し、初
★勝利に輝く達也。一方、南は、新体操の地区大会個人戦
★で3位入賞を果たし、続く都大会で準優勝。同じ"期待
★の星"の二人だが、達也の心境は、なんとなく複雑…!!

雑誌 45016—59

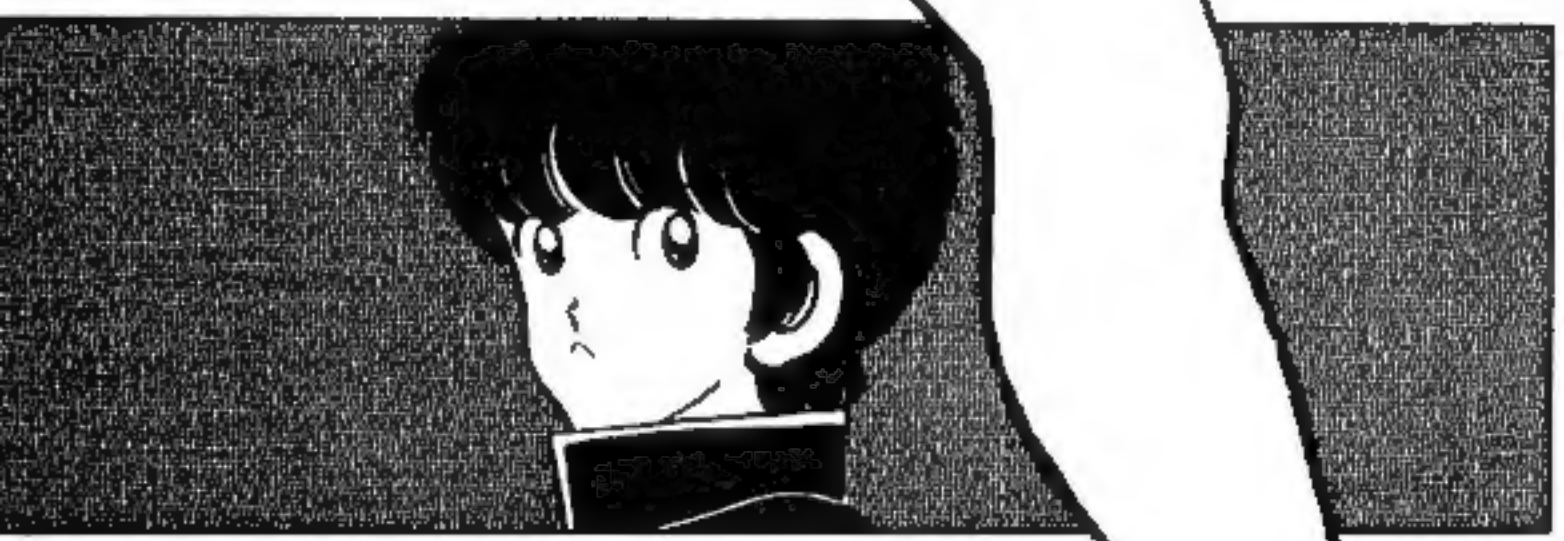
ISBN4-09-120659-X C0279 ¥360E

タッチ

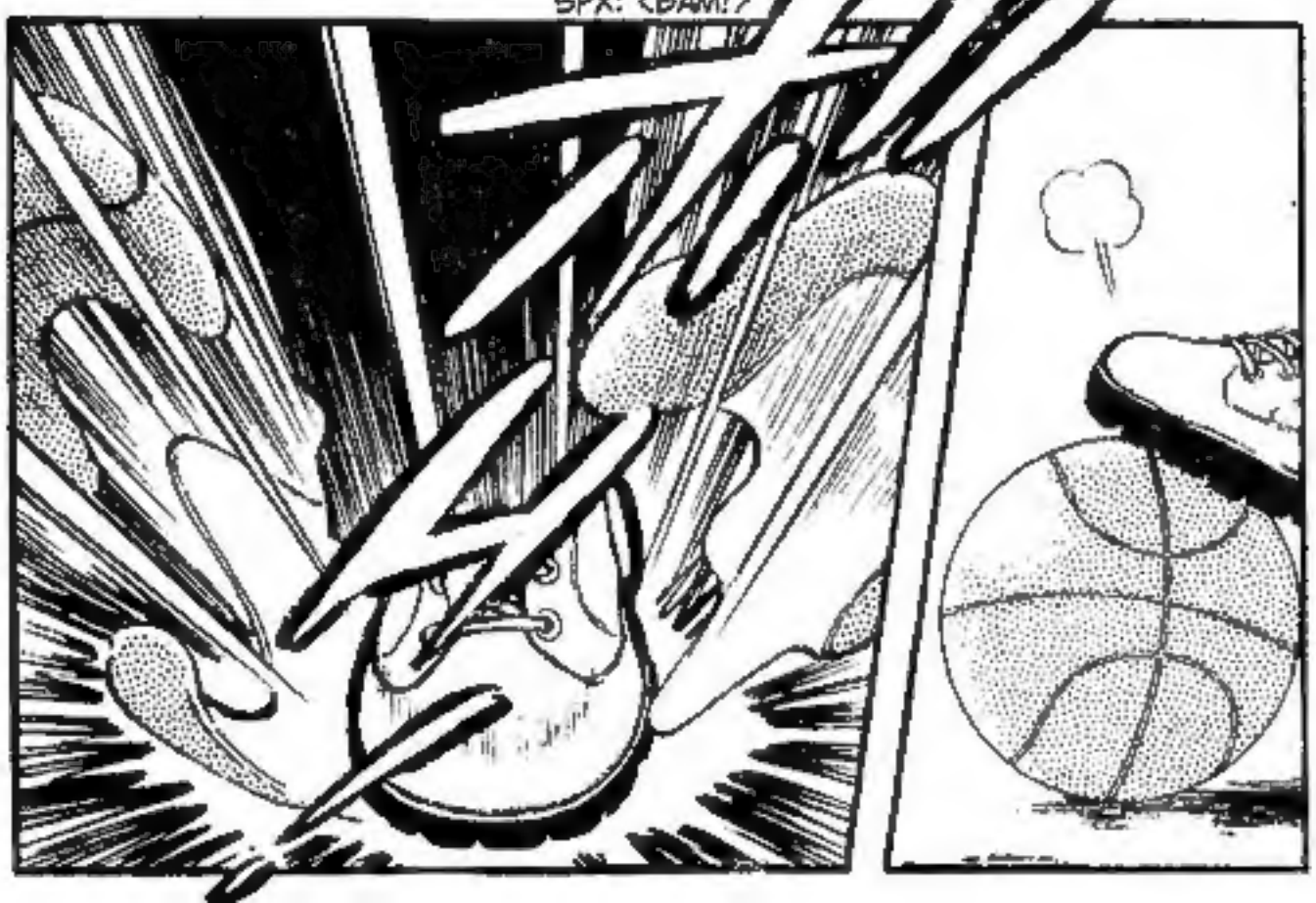
9

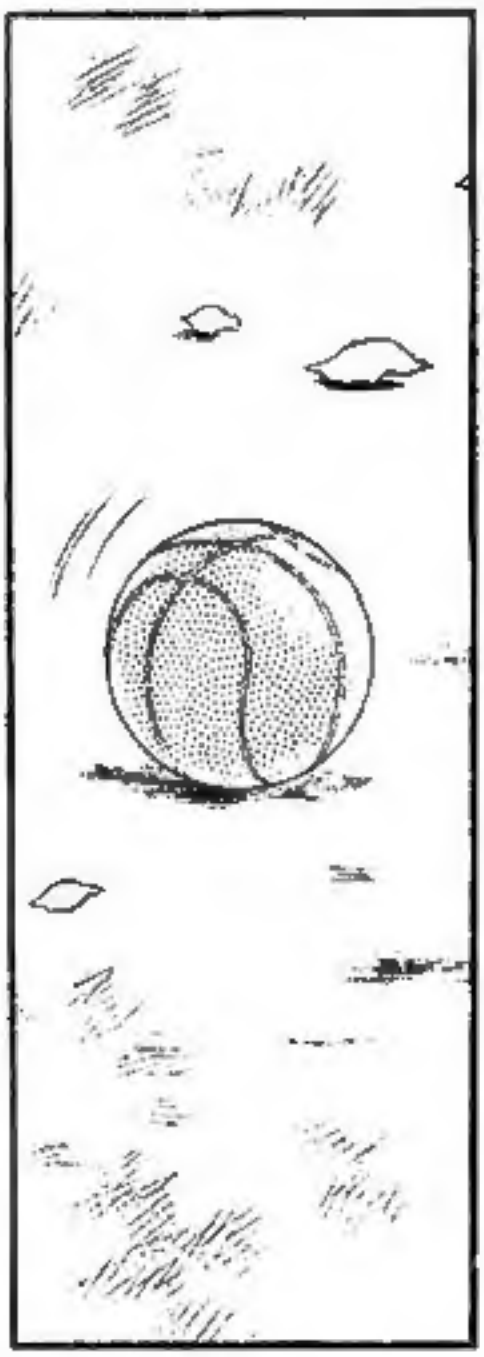
あだち充（みつる）

The Guy With a Scar Above His Eye



Meisei High School





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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1964...

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FORESAW A NEW CUBAN CRISIS.

I-A

FIDEL CASTRO CUT OFF THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE U.S. NAVAL BASE AT GUANTANAMO.

YAY.

YAY.

PROMISED MILITARY SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, WHICH INCLUDED NUCLEAR WEAPONS...

COPING WITH THIS CRISIS, PRESIDENT JOHNSON...

AH, VIOLENCE AT SCHOOL.

WHACK

BASEBALL Beginners' Book I

PITCHING

MAGAZINE FOR SPORTS FEVER

HOW GREAT, ASAKURA.

FINDING A RELIABLE ACE...

THUD

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Basic Exercise

HUH?

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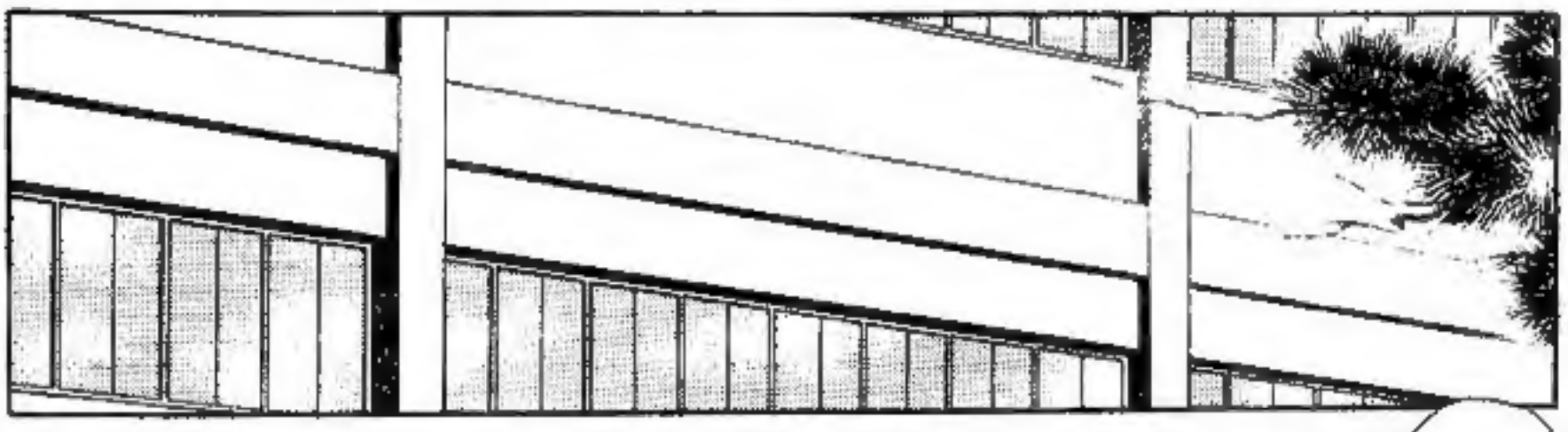
I GIVE UP, I GIVE UP.

RIIIIING

.....

AHAHA ...



SFX: <SLIDE...>

OH MY.

HUH?

OHH...

UMM...

PLEASE READ THIS.

KYA!

AH, BUT...

WILL YOU GO ON A DATE WITH ME THIS SUNDAY!?

THEN, IF IT'S OKAY...

I'M DE-LIGHTED.

HEY!

R- REALLY!?

HEY.

OH, NO.

NO WAY...

I GUESS I'M NO GOOD, HUH?

A GUY LIKE ME...

I HEARD THAT HE'S THE STRONGEST FIGHTER.

HUH?

WHO'S THE GANG LEADER OF THIS SCHOOL?

YAHOO!

DUNNO...

OKAY.

THEN, I'LL BE WAITING SUNDAY AT ELEVEN IN THE PARK IN FRONT OF THE STATION.

AH...

SFX: <BLA-A-AT!>

SNIFFLE

CLATTER

CLATTER

SNIP

CLAT...

HURRY UP AND BRING ME THE FLOWERS. 'CAUSE THEY'RE FOR DECORATING THE FACULTY ROOM.

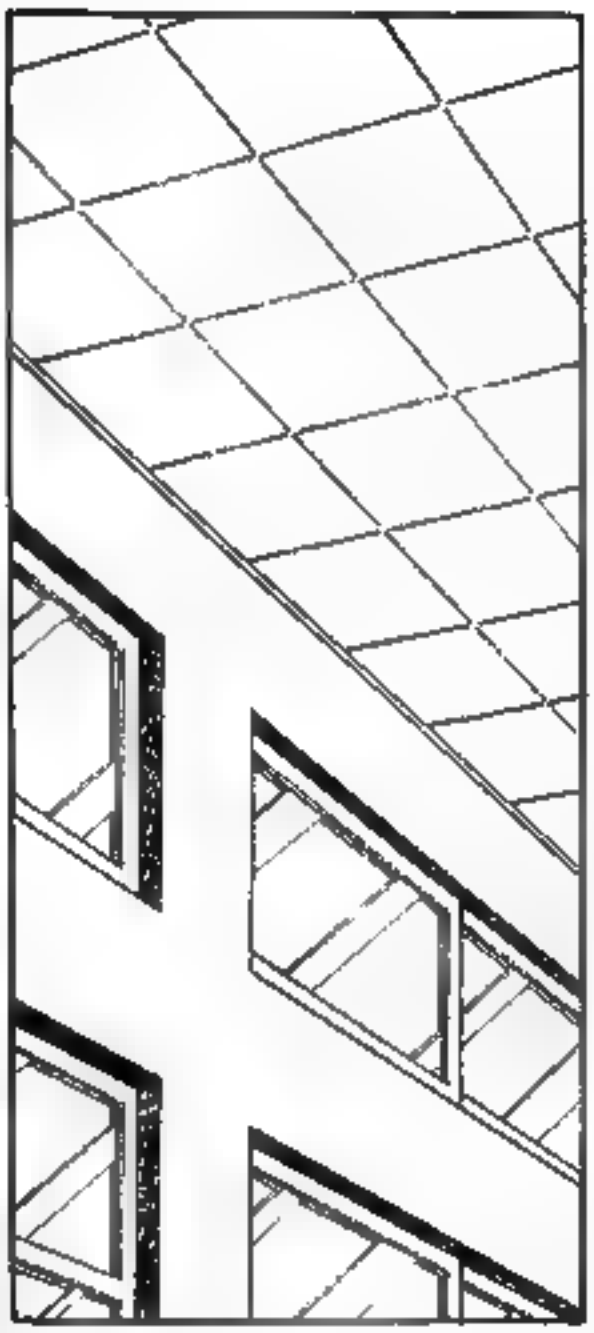
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HARADA-KU-U-UN!

SNIP

RIGHT.

PFEW!



SHUT UP!
SPEAKING OF YOU TWO, HUH?
SPEAKING OF BATTERY MATES, YOU'RE THE SAME AS BEING MAN AND WIFE.
WHAT'S THIS? THE TWO OF YOU ARE BATTERY MATES, RIGHT?

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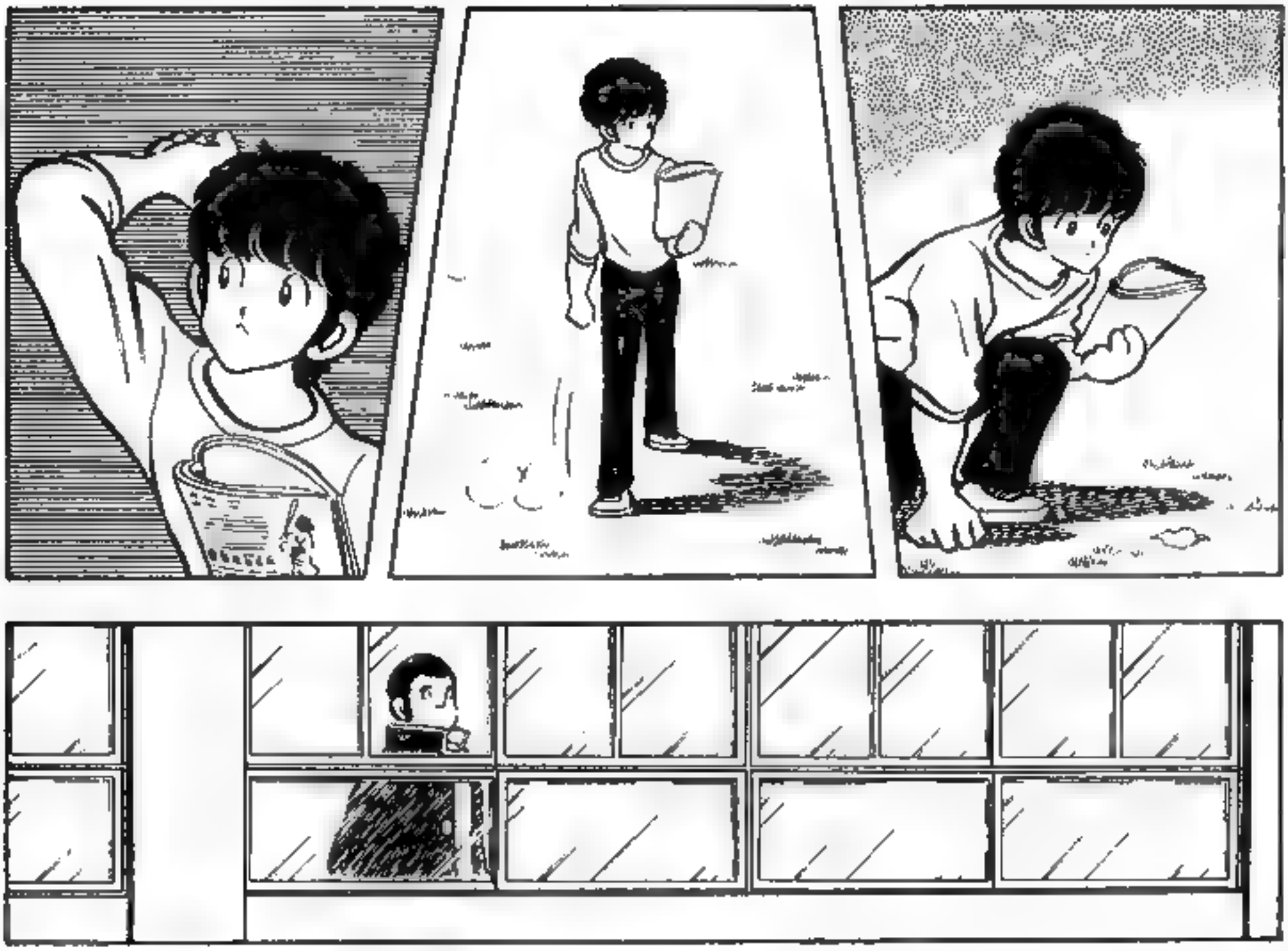
CLANK

CLANK

WHOOSH



WHOOP
CLANK
BASEBALL Beginners' Book
PITCHING

CLACK!

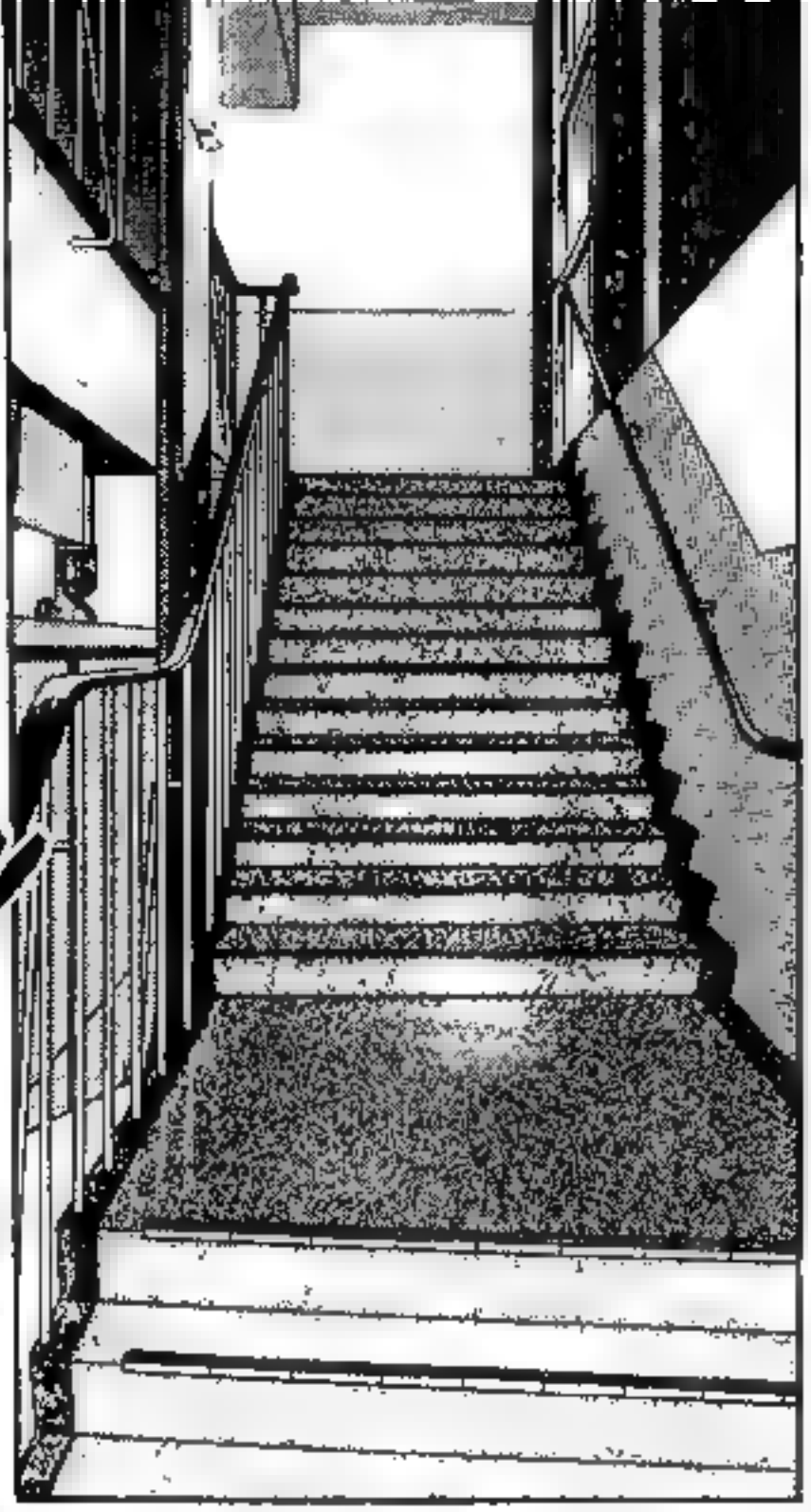
CRA-A-ASH

WHO WAS THAT!?

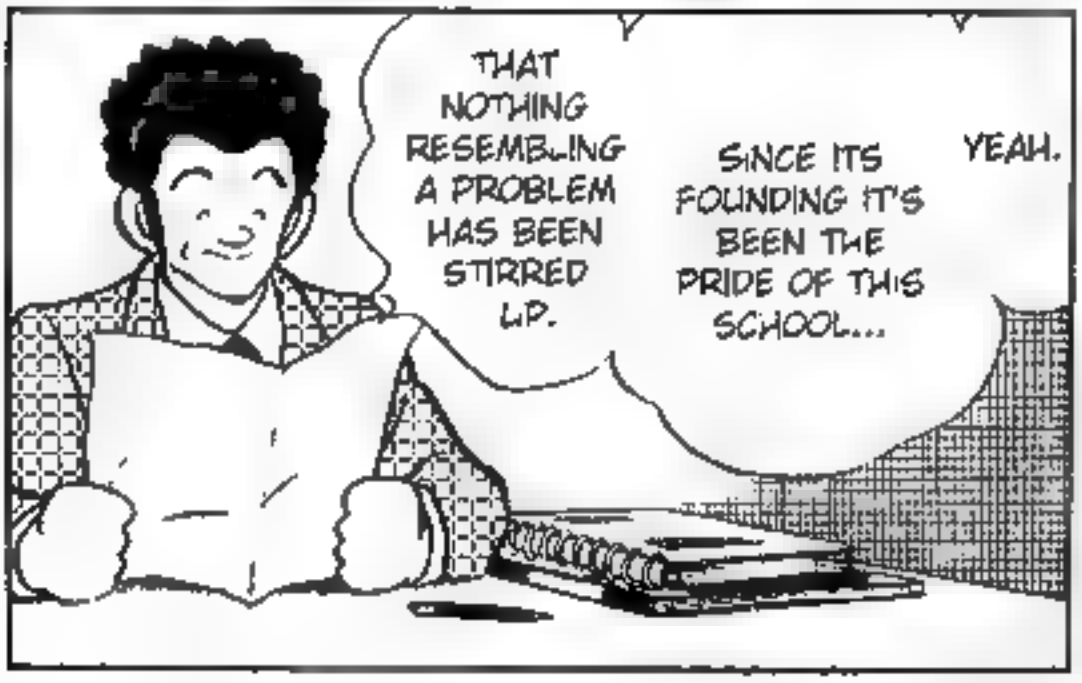
NOPE.

DID YOU SEE HIS FACE?

SFX: BLA-A-AT!?



ARE YOU CATCHING A COLD?


THAT NOTHING RESEMBLING A PROBLEM HAS BEEN STIRRED UP.
SINCE ITS FOUNDING IT'S BEEN THE PRIDE OF THIS SCHOOL...
YEAH.

THIS SEEMS TO BE A VERY PEACEFUL SCHOOL..

NOW THAT I'VE TRANS-FERRED...

FROM NOW ON YOU TEACHERS ARE GONNA GET BUSY, TOO!

HEH

YOU GUYS WERE UNLUCKY, HUH?

SEN-SEI.

I WON'T LET THAT NAME BE FORGOTTEN FOR MY ENTIRE LIFE!

RIGHT.

YOU'RE TAGAYA-KUN?

A MAP?

IT'S A MAP

WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?

WAH!

BONK!

I JUST HAPPENED TO PASS BY FOR A BIT.

THAT'S WHERE I'M GOING RIGHT NOW.

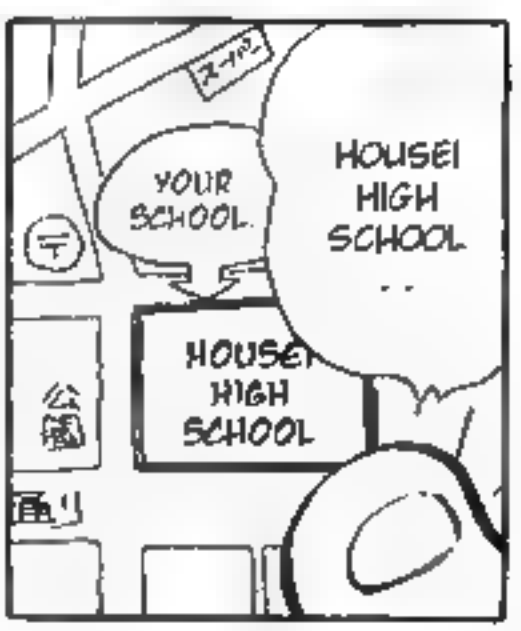
YE-E-ES.

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU PLAY HOOKY...

SINCE I'M NOT AROUND ..

WHAT ABOUT THE BASEBALL TEAM PRACTICE?

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, ALL SPACED OUT?


スーパー
YOUR SCHOOL
HOUSEI HIGH SCHOOL
HOUSEI HIGH SCHOOL
公園
通り

Meisei High S

Meisei High School

あれは500円玉だの巻

TITLE: <THAT WAS A 500 YEN COIN>

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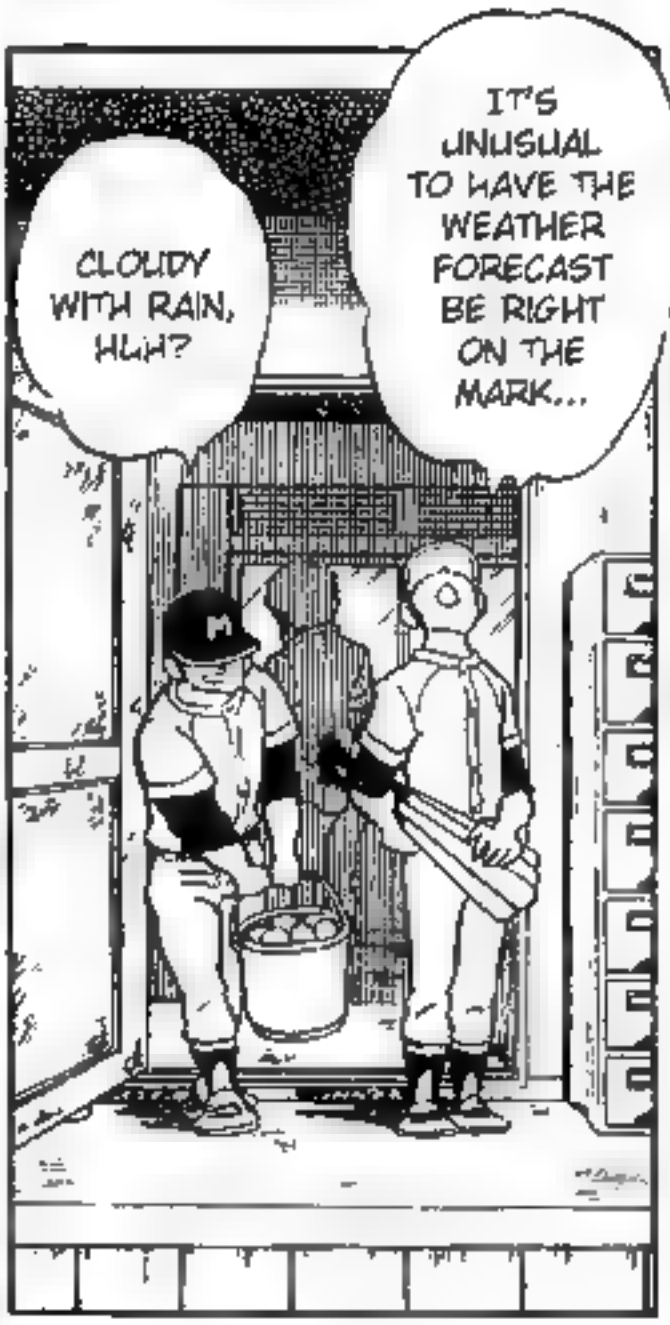

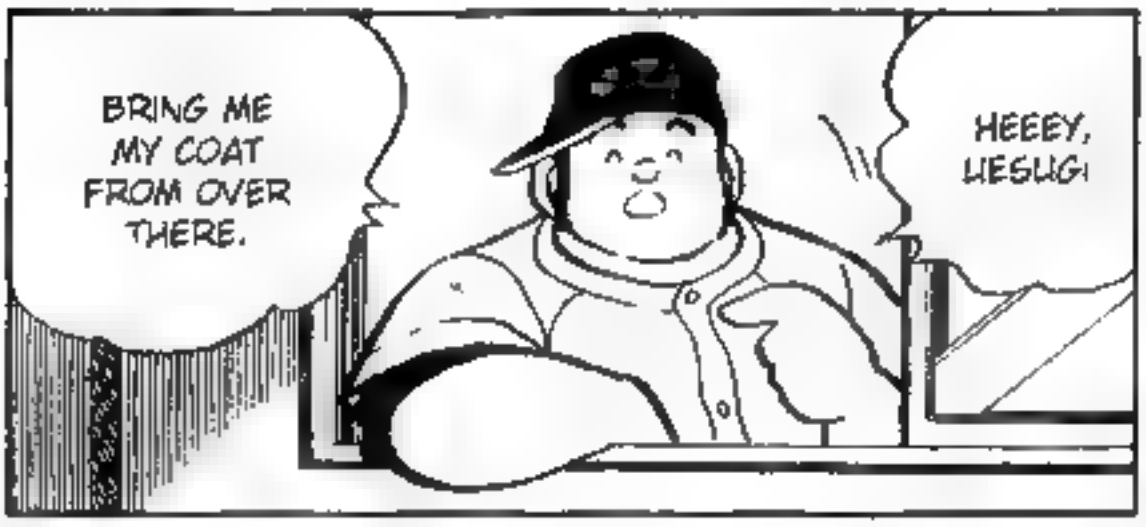

AH.

JINGLE

DUMMY!

WAH!

CLINK

SPLISH

D- DUMMY! THAT WAS A 500-YEN COIN!

DON'T MAKE A FUSS... IT'S ONLY A 10-YEN COIN.

I'M NOT LYING!

LIAR.

AHHHHH!!

A HOLE-IN-ONE.

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IT'S 'CAUSE YOU THREW IT!

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST HAND IT OVER?

IF YOU'RE THE STARTING CATCHER THEN CATCH IT LIKE YOU SHOULD, DUMMY.

WHO CARES?

THAT WAS MY ENTIRE FORTUNE FOR TODAY!

OTHER THAN THAT, THERE'S NOT EVEN A SINGLE 1-YEN COIN IN MY POCKET!

HMPH!

IS THAT SOME-THING TO BRAG ABOUT?

AHHHH!

SFX: <SPLISHHHHHHH>

I'M DEFINITELY BUYING MEAT BUNS WITH THIS 500 YEN!

NO.

GIVE UP.

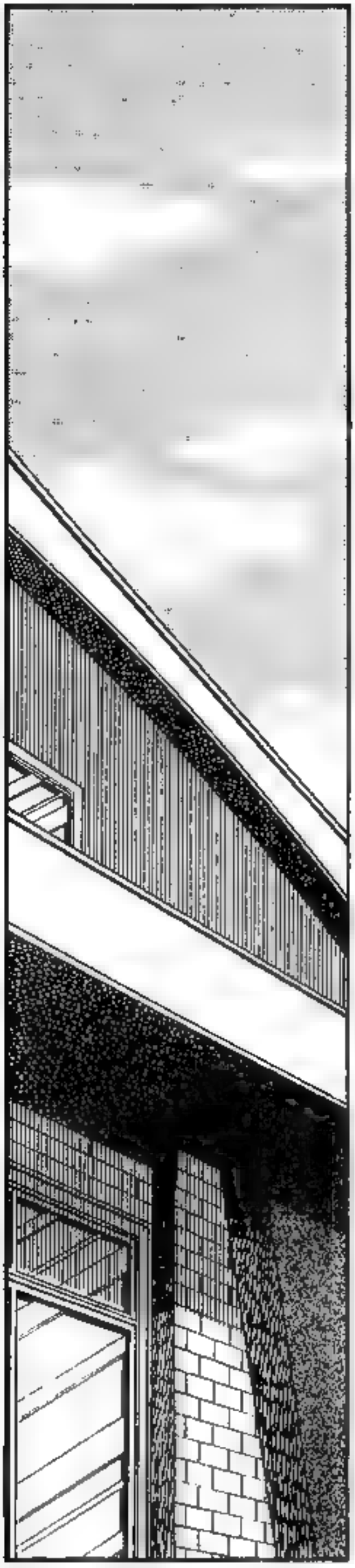
THERE'S NO WAY, KOU-TAROU-KUN

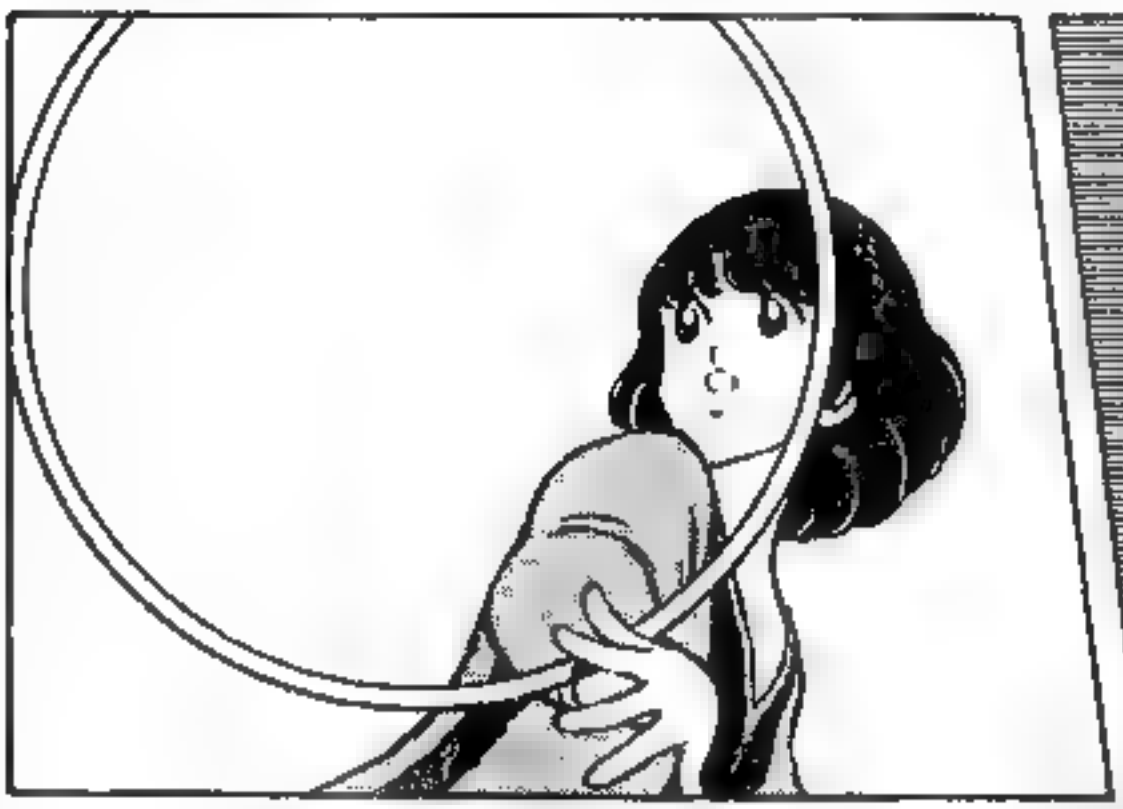
LET'S GO HOME!

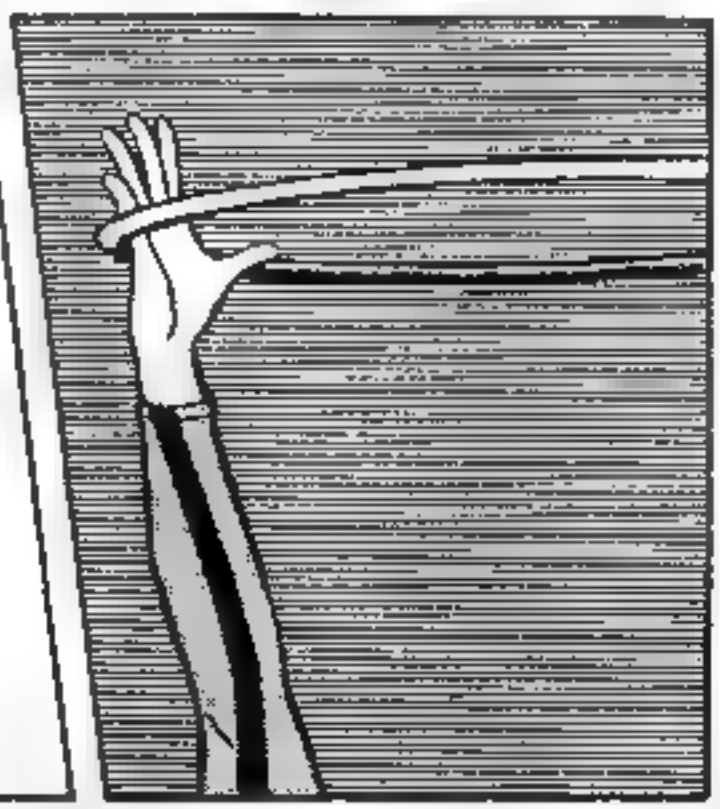
LEAVE HIM ALONE, MINAMI.

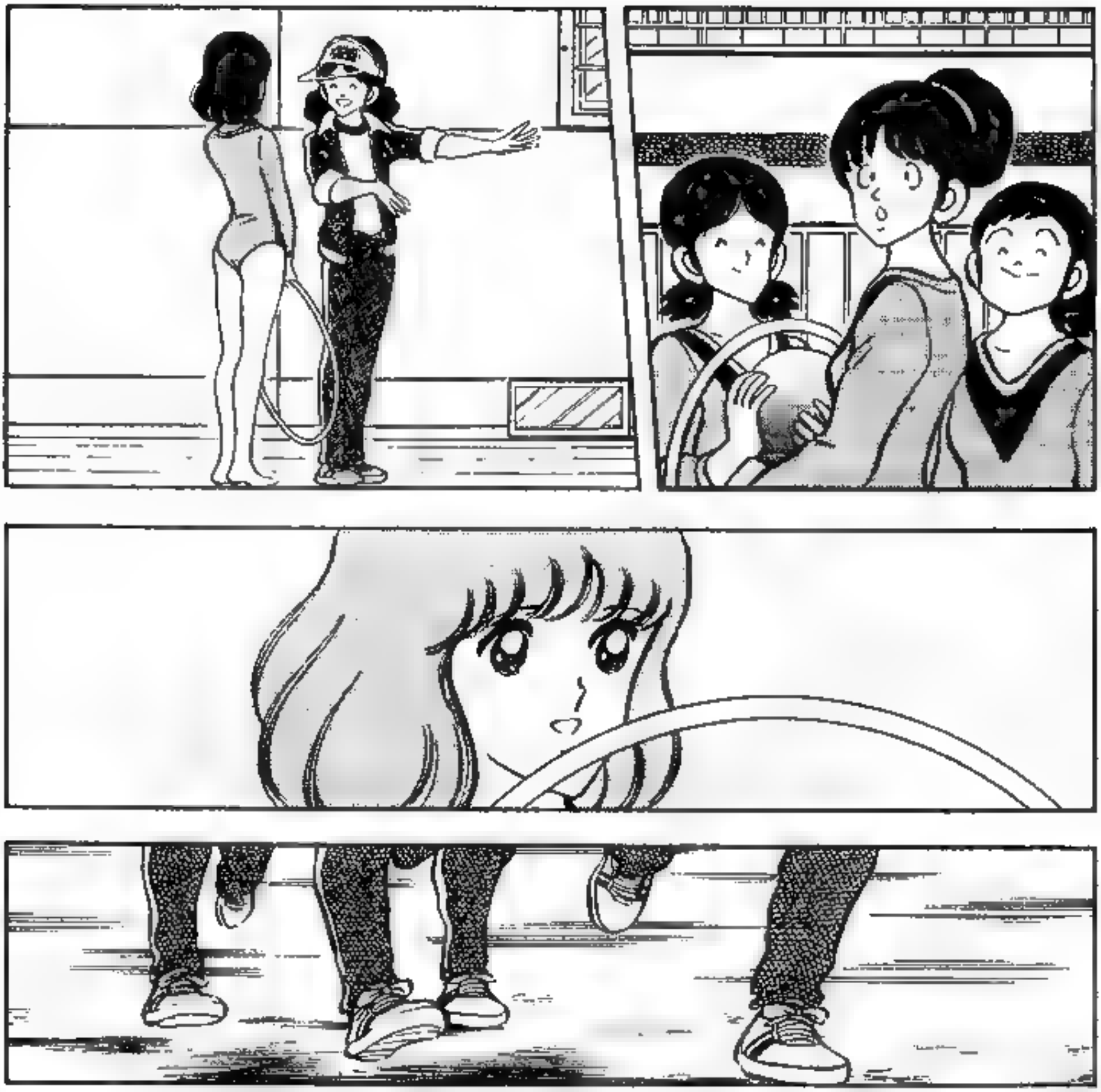
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

YOU JERK!









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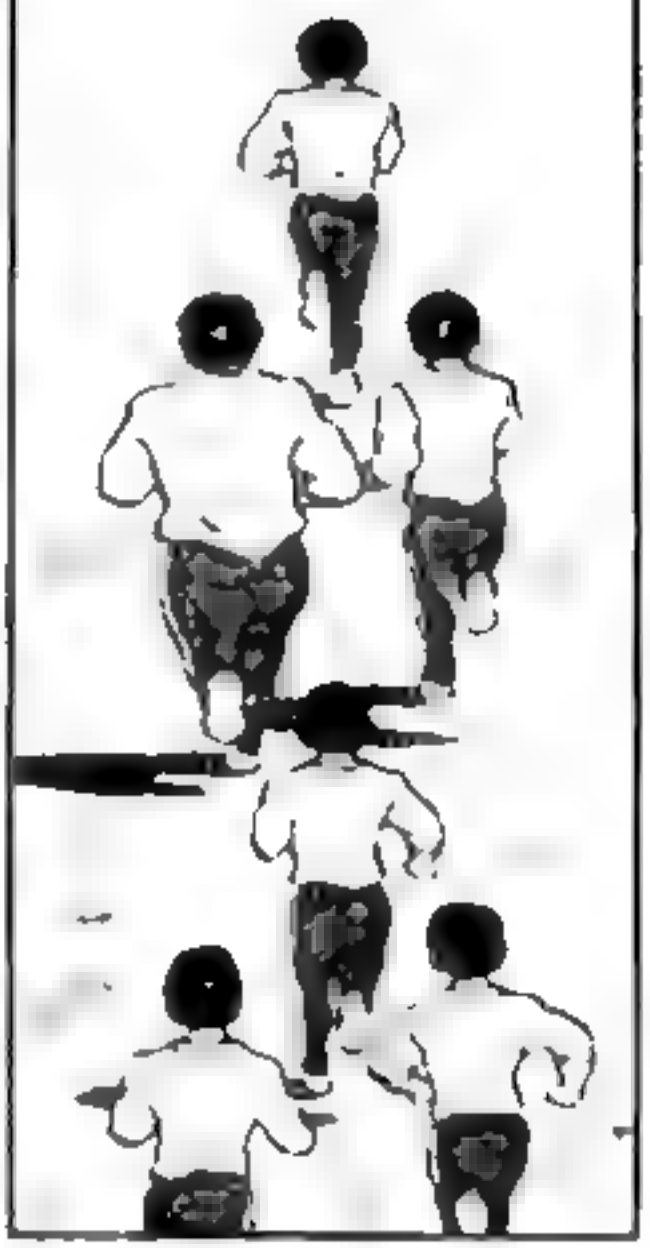
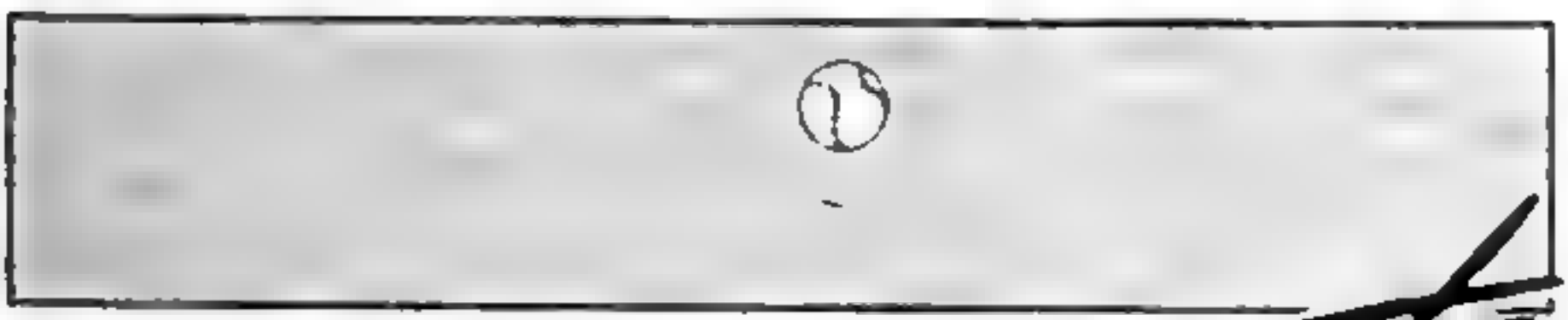
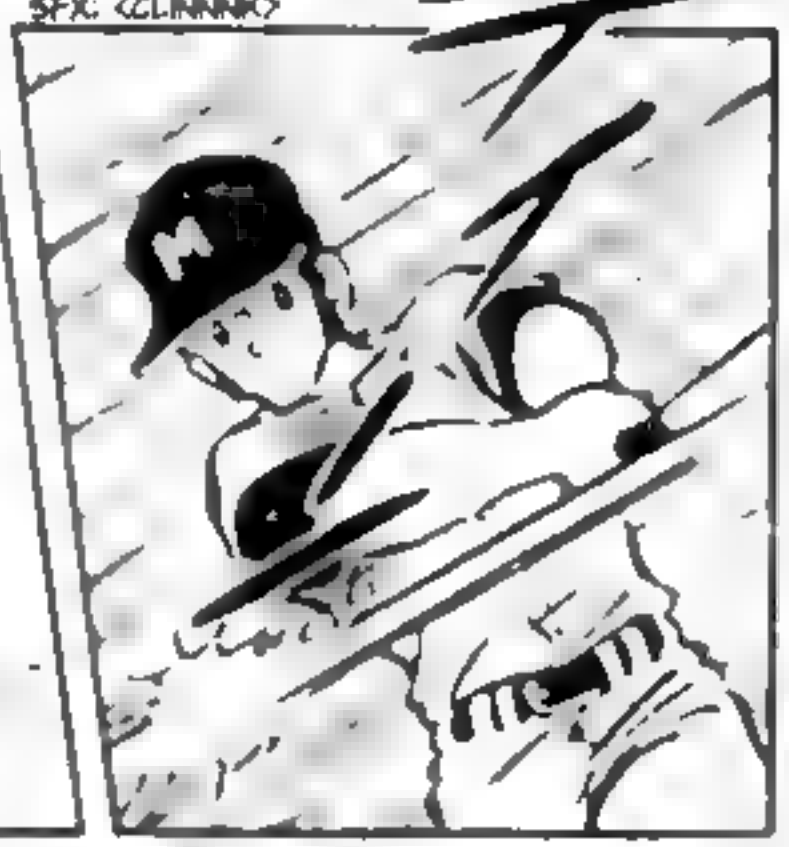






SFX: <CLINNNK>

OOOF.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SEEING THE BALL PERFECTLY...

YOU AVOID IT BEAUTIFULLY.

HEH HEH.

I'LL CATCH IT.

I SHOULD CATCH IT, SHOULDN'T I?

I KNOW.

SFX. <CLINNNK>

WAP!

HEHEHE...

THAT'S NO GOOD! YOUR BODY'S MOVING AWAY FROM THE BALL!

AHEM.

OH, IT'S TRUE.

THEN GO CHECK ON HIM.

IF HE'S AWAY FROM SCHOOL TOMORROW, TOO...

HEEEY, SACHI KO-O-O!

WHY ME...!?

UESUGI!

HASN'T KOUTAROU RECOVERED FROM HIS COLD YET?

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.

SFX: <WHAP!>

I'LL GO.

HESUGI, I'LL CATCH FOR YOU. PITCH.

OKAAAY.

THROW AS HARD AS YOU CAN.

DON'T WORRY... IF IT'S ONLY CATCHING, I'M BETTER THAN KOUTAROU!!

WHOOSH!!

SFX. <WHAP!>

C'MON!

REALLY?

THE USUAL POWER IS MISSING!!

YOUR PITCHING FORM IS LACKING FIERCE-NESS.

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

Matsudaira

MO-O-OM!

MOM.

KOFF

I WANNA EAT MEAT BUNS...

RATTLE

WHAT IS IT?

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF DOING THE LAUNDRY.. WAIT A BIT, 'KAY?

MEAT BUNS. HURRY UP AND GO BUY SOME FOR ME...

IT SEEMS IT'S JUST YOUR APPETITE THAT'S NORMAL.

THAT'S QUITE A VIRUS...

THE LAUNDRY OR ME, WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT!?

DOING

IF YOU DO THAT, I'LL DIE!!

THAT'S NO GOOD!

I GET IT!

SFX: <BANG>

.....

THAT'S A DIFFICULT..

"CHOICE", ISN'T IT.

HMM...

KOFF

KOFF

KOFF

HERE YOU GO... YOUR MEAT BUNS.

HERE, HURRY 'N' EAT.

Hate the Crime and Not the Person.

HA HA.

THAT WAS AWFULLY QUICK...

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...

HEH HEH...

OOG.

ARE YOU SUR-PRISED?

MMF

MMF

MMF

MMF

AND THEN, THAT YOUNG BOY...

WHEN I WENT OUT THE FRONT DOOR...

THERE STOOD A YOUNG BOY.

MMF

MMF

HEY! ARE YOU LISTEN-ING!?

click

AND JUST LIKE THAT, HE HEADED OFF.

WITHOUT A WORD, HE GAVE ME THE SACK OF MEAT BUNS HE WAS HOLDING IN HIS HAND...

WHEN THAT YOUNG BOY SAW MY FACE.

MMF

MMF

UNSOCIABLE, THAT YOUNG BOY...

.....?

WASN'T THAT GREAT TIMING!

AN INCRED-IBLY TRUE STORY.

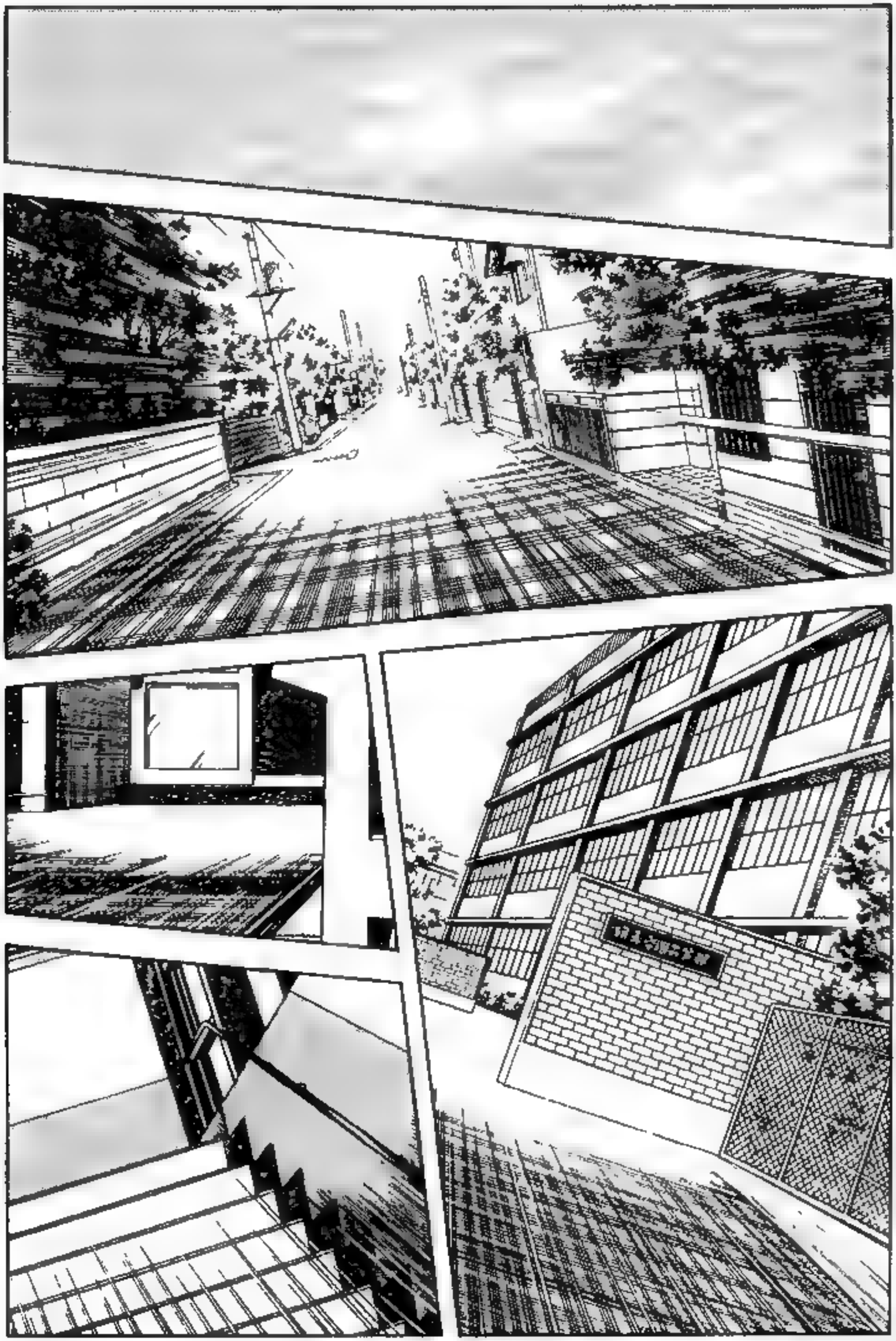
CLICK

IS HE YOUR FRIEND?

500 SHOWA 57

YEAH...

Anyway,
I'll Give It a Shot



HUFF!

PUFF!

HUFF!

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS MUST NOT ACT LIKE SPOILED FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS FOREVER!!

WON'T BE ABLE TO SUPPORT ANYTHING ON TOP OF IT.

EVEN A PYRAMID, IF YOU DON'T FORTIFY IT SOLIDLY FROM THE BOTTOM...

IF THERE WERE NO FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS, THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS.

EVEN IF YOU LOSE YOUR HEAD AFTER BECOMING THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS, NEVER FIND YOURSELF BEING LATE.

SNAP!

GULP!

GOOD MORNING, UESUGI-KUN!

SIGH

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HOME-ROOM IS ALMOST OVER...

DON'T SHOUT OUT LOUD, DUMMY.

SHHH..

WOW! WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!

'CAUSE I HATE BEING THE FOCUS OF EVERYONE'S ATTENTION...

WHY AREN'T YOU GOING IN?

...

BECAUSE YOU DON'T MIND BEING SCOLDED BY THE TEACHER AT ALL.

WHAT IS?

THAT'S SO LIKE YOU...

WHAT A MILD-MANNERED GUY YOU ARE...

IF YOU WERE TO SAY THAT I WAS LATE FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY...

THEN THAT WOULD CER-TAINLY BE A COINCI-DENCE...

AH...

TODAY'S THE FIRST TIME I'M LATE.

THAT UESUGI-KUN IS ALSO LATE ON THAT DAY... IS THE COINCIDENCE.

WHAT DID YOU MEAN, THAT IT'S "A COINCI-DENCE"?

EH?

IT'S NOT REALLY ALL THE TIME.

ISN'T IT TRUE EVERY TIME, NO MATTER WHICH ROUTE YOU TAKE?

HEY, Y'KNOW ...

WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DO YOU LIKE?

HMMM.

YOUR PLACE ISN'T THAT FAR AWAY, UESUGI-KUN.

PLEASE COME VISIT MY PLACE.

HOW KIND OF YOU...

THANKS.

IF YOU LIKE, WHY DON'T YOU TRY LISTENING TO IT?

I HAVE HER LP.

HOW ABOUT NAKAMORI AKINA?

UESUGI! HOME-ROOM'S OVER!!

GET IN HERE RIGHT NOW!

JEEZ, KID...

CAN'T YOU BE JUST A LITTLE QUIET?

OKAY, OKAY.

WHICH DO YOU PREFER, COFFEE OR TEA?

RIGHT. THANK YOU.

NOT AT ALL.

CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER

WELL!
FOOD, FOOD!

SFX <BUZZZ>

IT'S BAD ETIQUETTE
HEY! DON'T EAT WHILE WALKING.

GULP

YEAH...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

AND YOU, HOLDING A BOX LUNCH...

DOES IT SEEM LIKE YOU'VE IMPROVED?

DUNNO ..

AFTER ALL..

THERE ARE ONLY THREE DAYS LEFT...

TO THE GYM, TO PRACTICE FOR A BIT...

RHYTHMIC GYMNAS-TICS.. HUH?

ANYWAY, WITHIN THE TIME CON-STRAINTS,

I'LL GIVE IT ALL I CAN.

ARE YOU IN A POSITION TO WORRY ABOUT OTHERS?

OKAY.

GET A SCORE THAT WON'T DISGRACE YOU IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I'M NOT THAT OPTIMISTIC ...

JUST A LITTLE AND SHE'LL BE IN GOOD SHAPE...

CRAMMING IS CRAMMING.

THAT SIMPLY DOESN'T DISGRACE HER!

IT MAY POSSIBLY BE FAR FROM A SCORE...

ADD TO THAT HOW SHE LOOKS...

WHA-A-AT? THE HIGH SCHOOL RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS TEAM ITSELF IS STILL IN THE CRAMMING PHASE...

SO JUST THE STUFF SHE'S MADE OF CAN TAKE HER ADEQUATELY FAR.

YOU JERK!

ARE YOU *ALWAYS* PEEPING!?

HOW DISGRACE-FUL.

JUST *ONCE IN A WHILE!*

JERK

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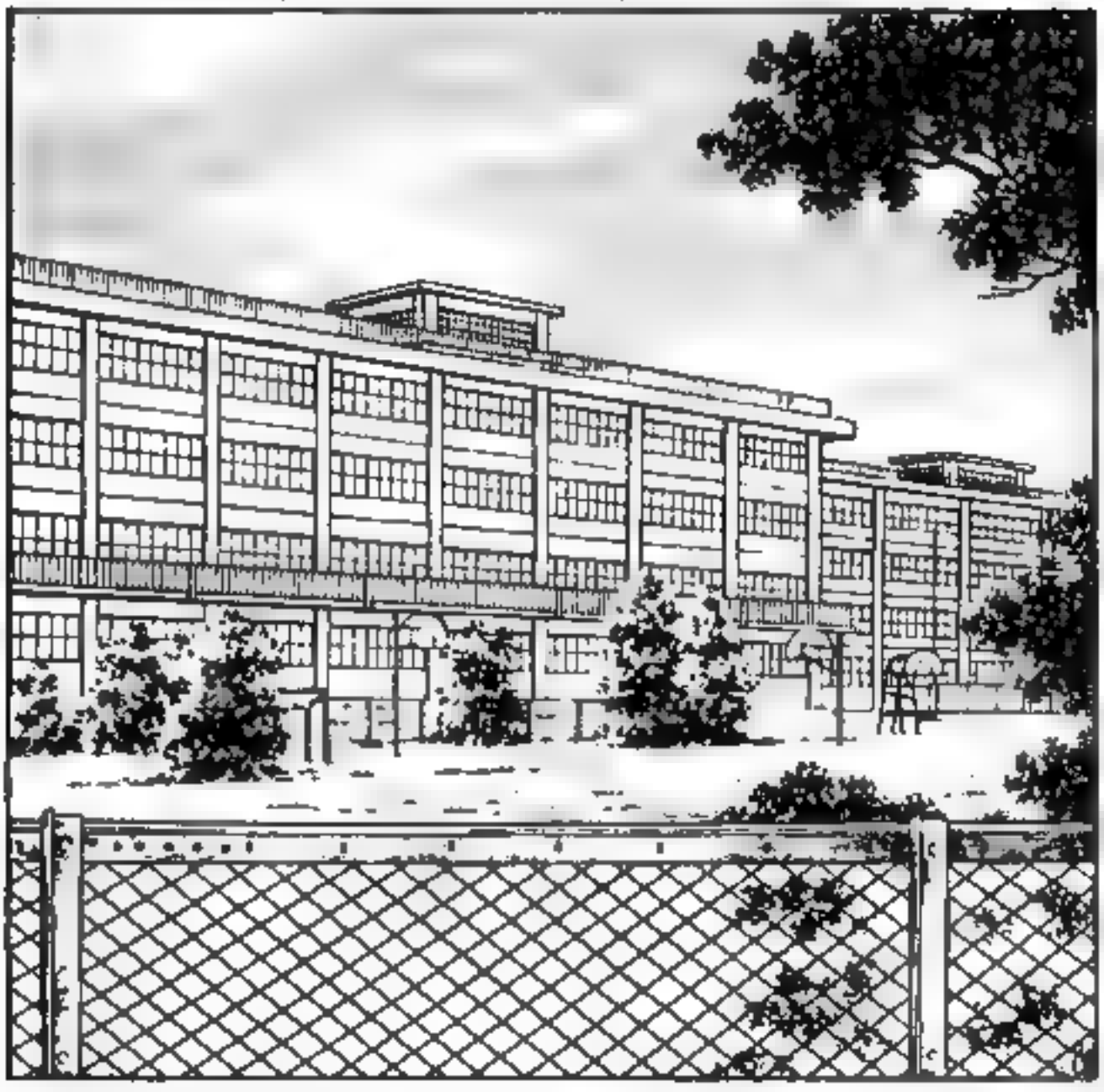
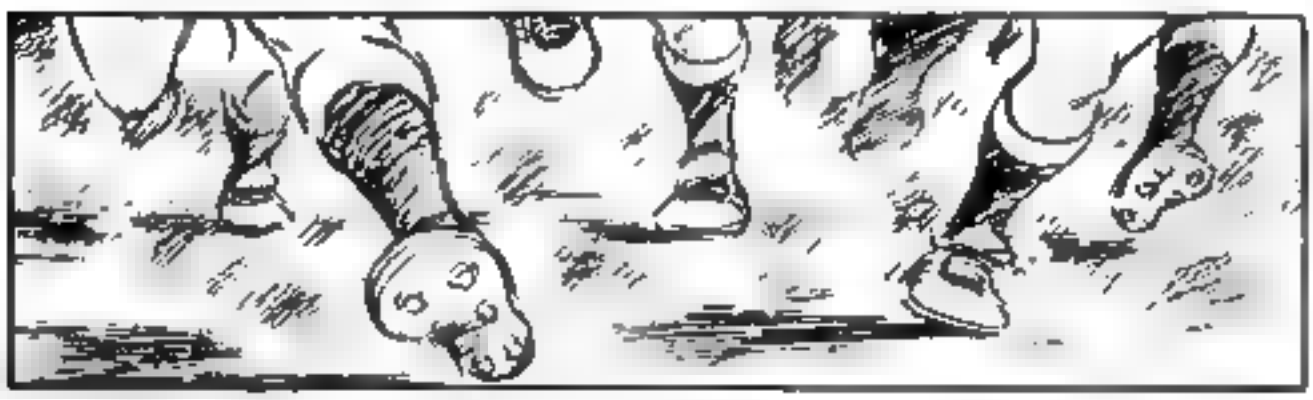
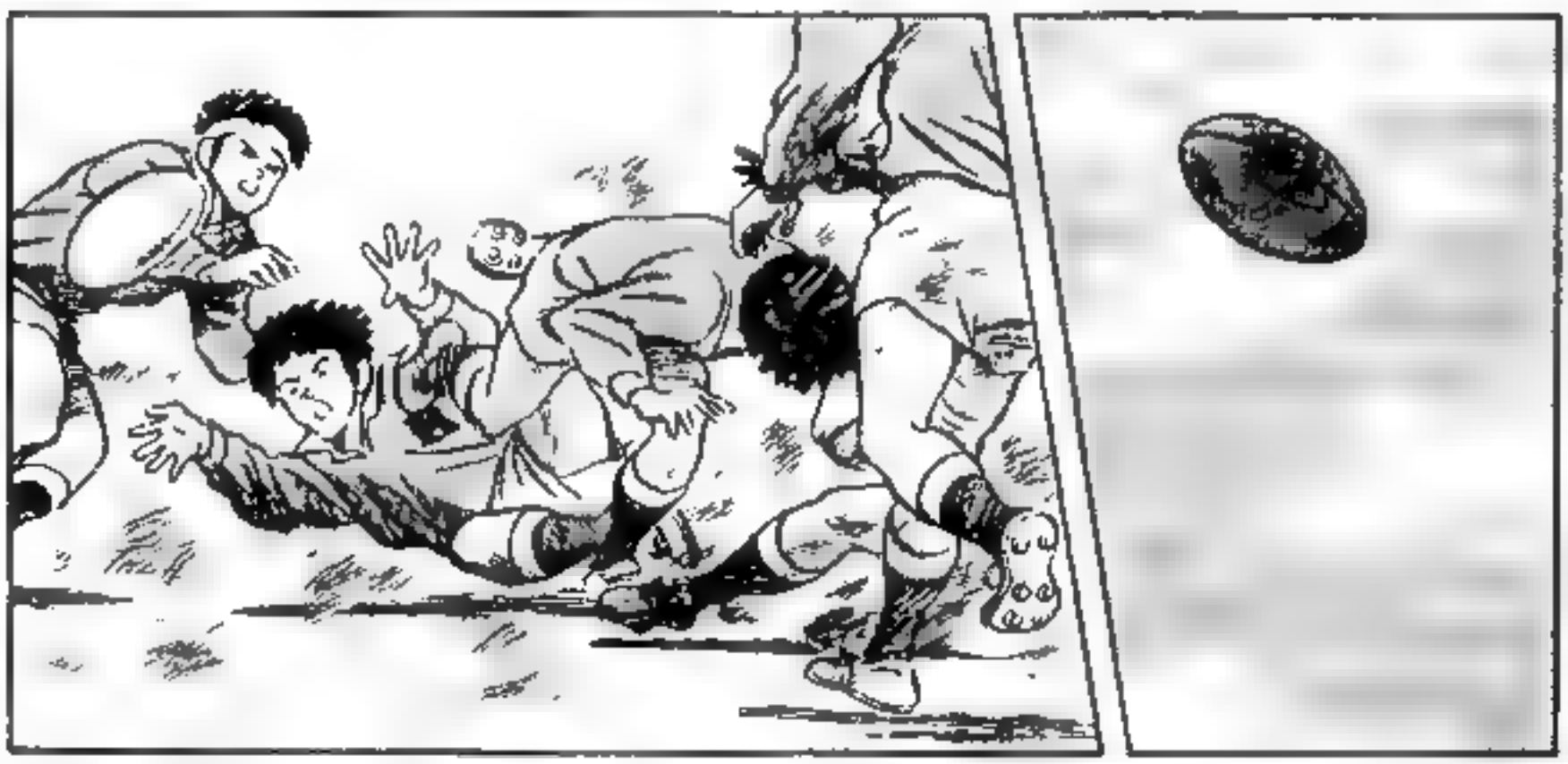
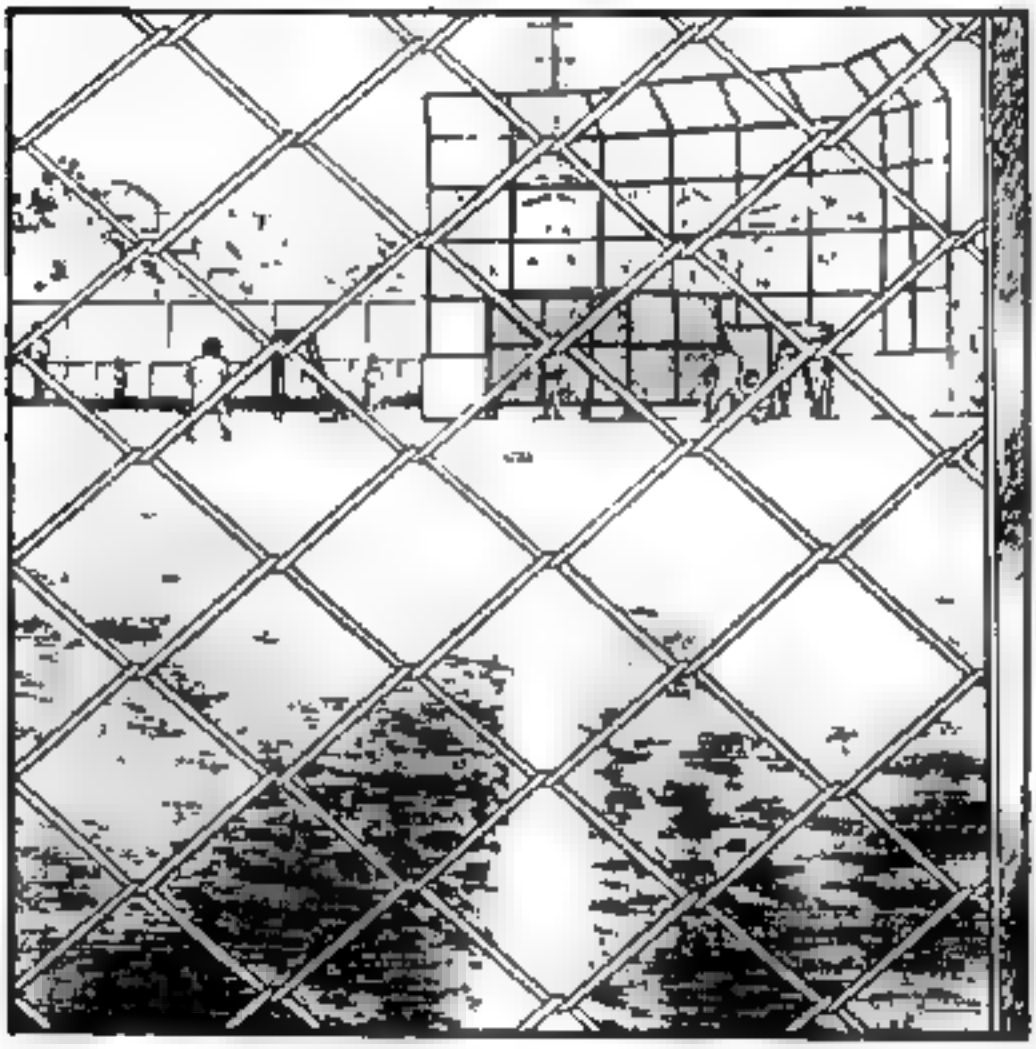






CLINK



SFX: (WHIZZ)

WOOSH!

ALL RIGHT. THAT'S A NICE SWING.

WHAP

SFX: <WHIZZ>

ALL RIGHT... THAT'S A NICE SWING...

IF YOU JUST WANNA PRACTICE YOUR SWINGS, DO IT SOMEWHERE ELSE.

SWISH

WHOOSH

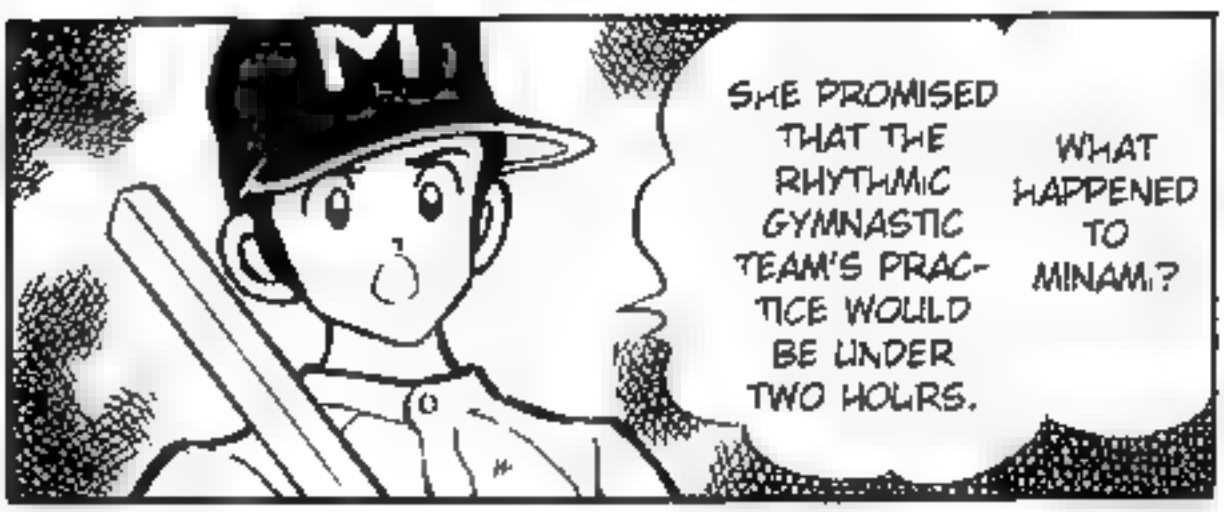
....

Y'JERK!

GOODBYE, UESUGI-KUN!

POLISH-
ING
BALLS.

HUH?
UESUGI-KUN, GIVE ME A HAND WITH THIS FOR A BIT.


SHE PROMISED THAT THE RHYTHMIC GYMNASTIC TEAM'S PRAC-TICE WOULD BE UNDER TWO HOURS.
WHAT HAPPENED TO MINAMI?

THAT'S TRUE.

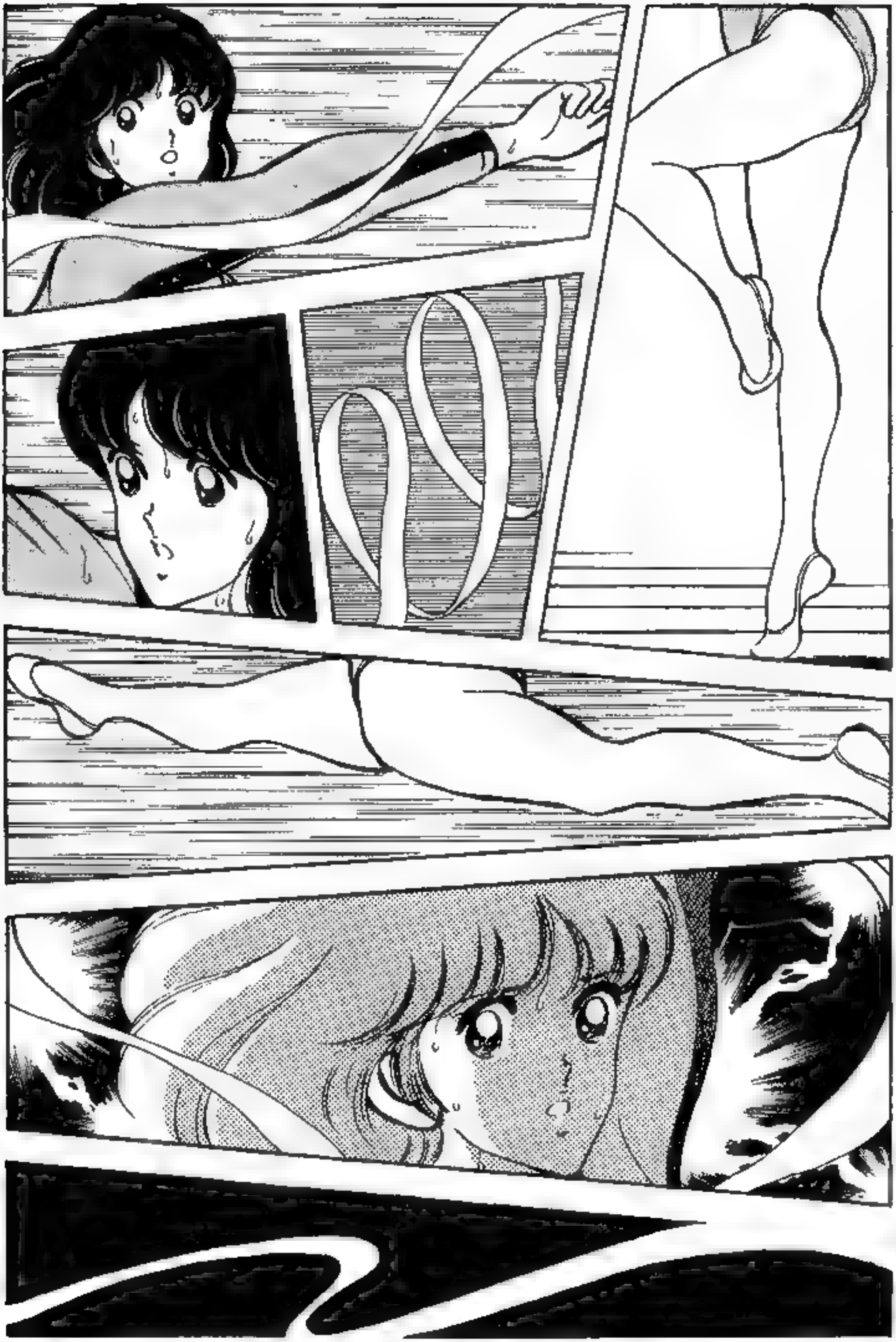
JEEZ.

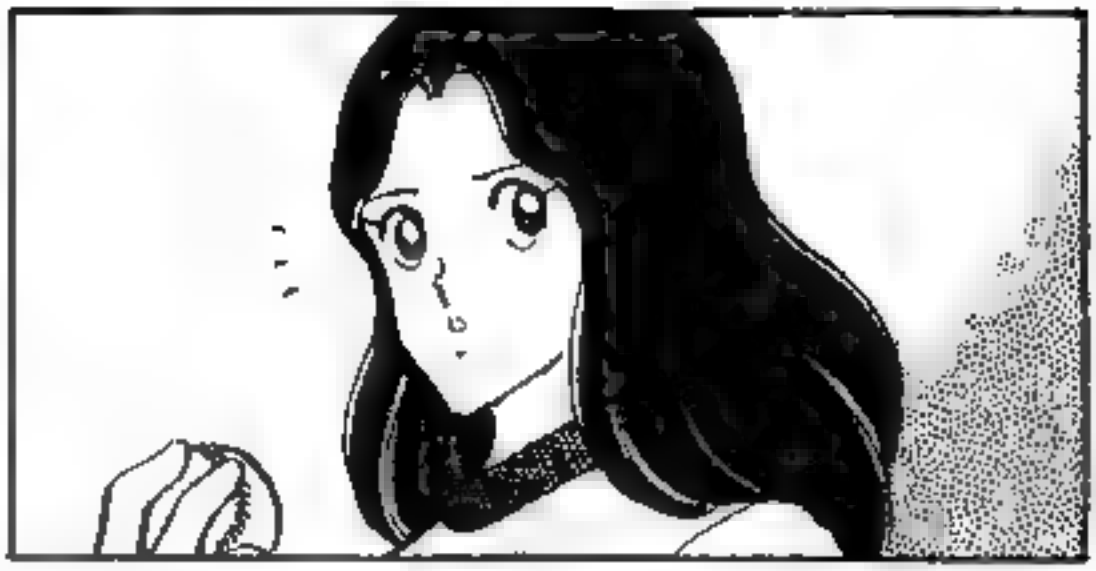
SHE'S FIRST AND FOREMOST A MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM...

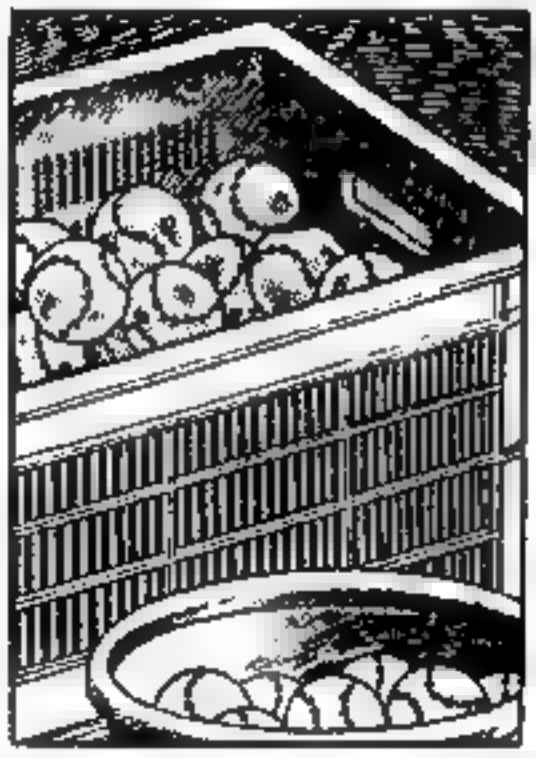
I'LL GO GET HER.

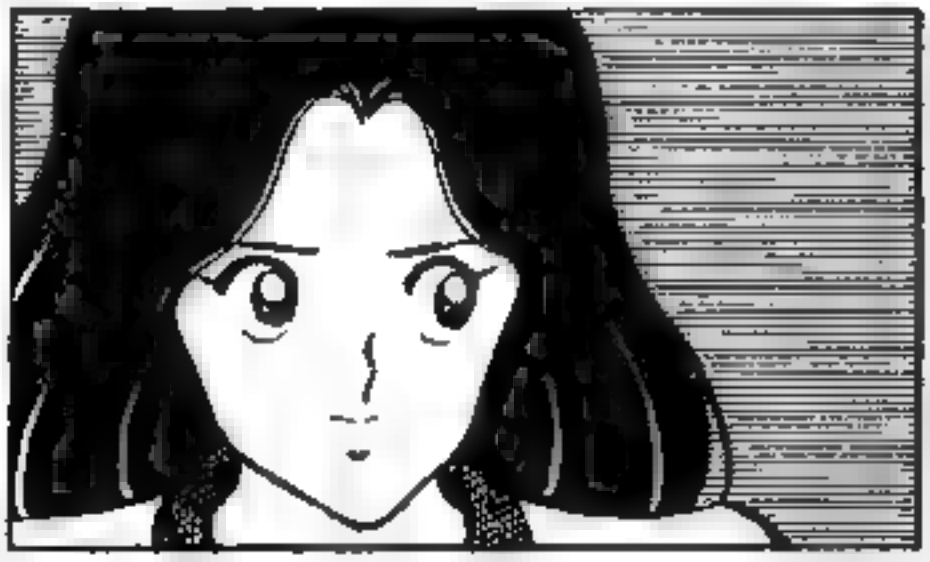
SFX: <CLACK>

CHK









Minami's a Natural

Edited by Ijesmond from #MangaProject on irc.mircx.com

OKAY, OKAY.

FLUSTER!

MANGA. <BOY'S BIG COMICS>

THUMP THUMP THUMP...

SPLASH

AH...

OH, NO.

SLAM

TATSUYA-A-A!?

RATTLE

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BATTLE

COFFEE 南風

COFFEE 南風

AWNING AND SIGN: <MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP>

WHERE'S MINAMI?

WEL-COME.

GEH.

WENT TO BED ALREADY.

HOT COFFEE.

'KAY.

IT'S OKAY..

NOTH-ING.

HM.

WHAT DID YOU WANT?

SEEMS TO BE COMING HOME PRETTY TIRED...

SIGH

LATELY...

THAT MINAMI...

IT'LL BE ANOTHER TWO OR THREE DAYS..

?

BEING A MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM.

IS IT THAT TERRI-BLE?

RATTLE

GUZZLE GUZZLE

IT'S FINE.

OHH? YOU AREN'T PUTTING IN SUGAR?

PHOO

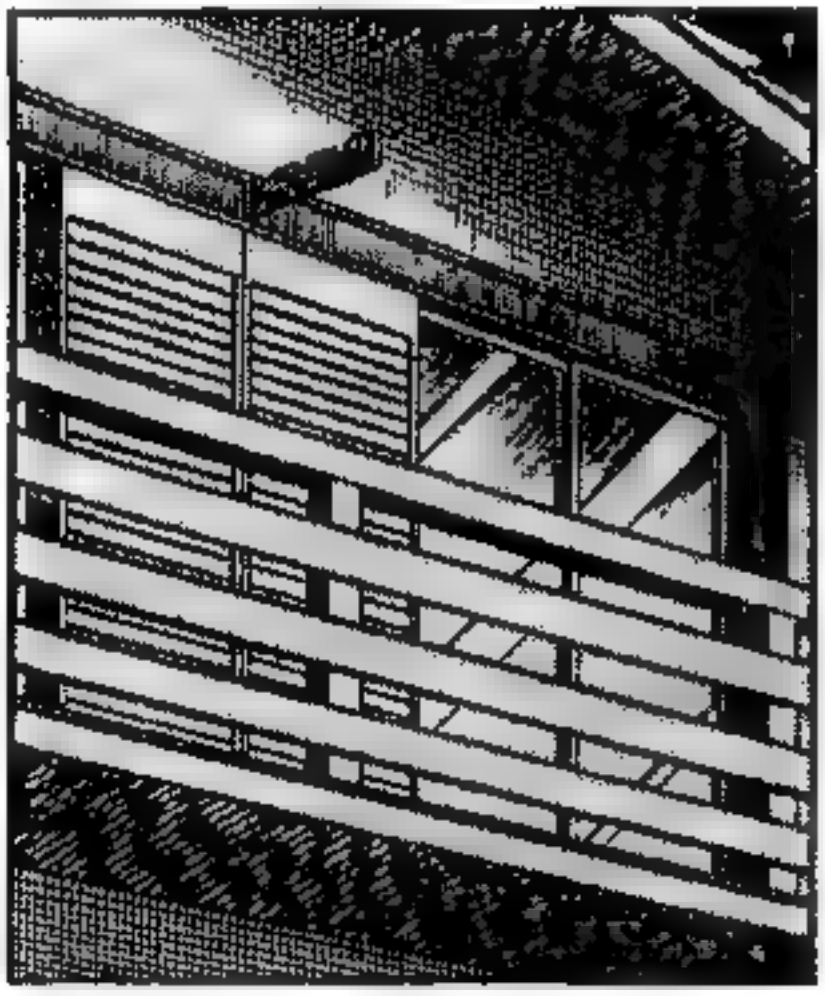
SHE WENT TO BED, HUH?

I SEE

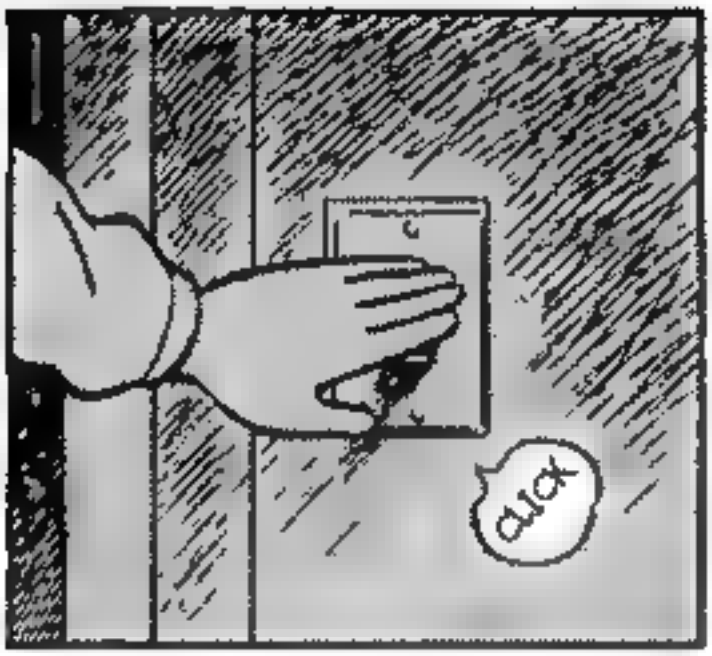
THANKS FOR THE TREAT.

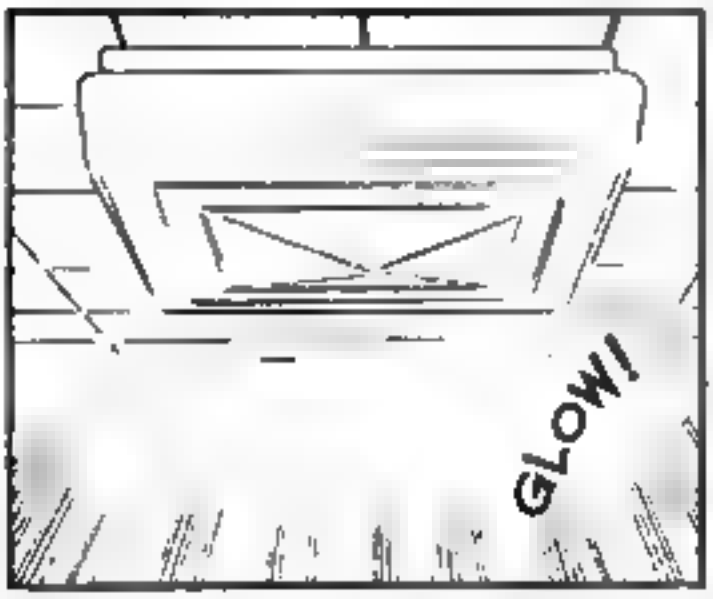
MENU

JEEZ...
CAN'T BE HELPED, HUH?

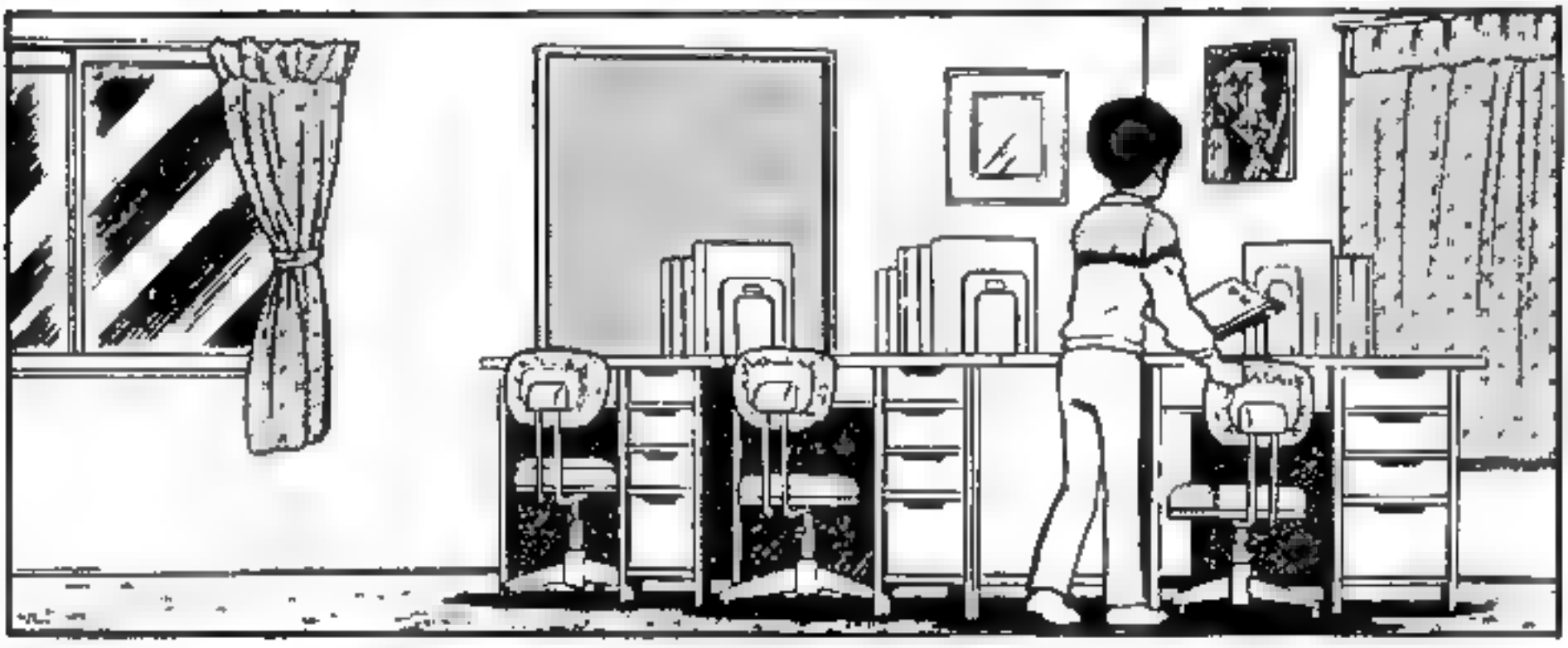


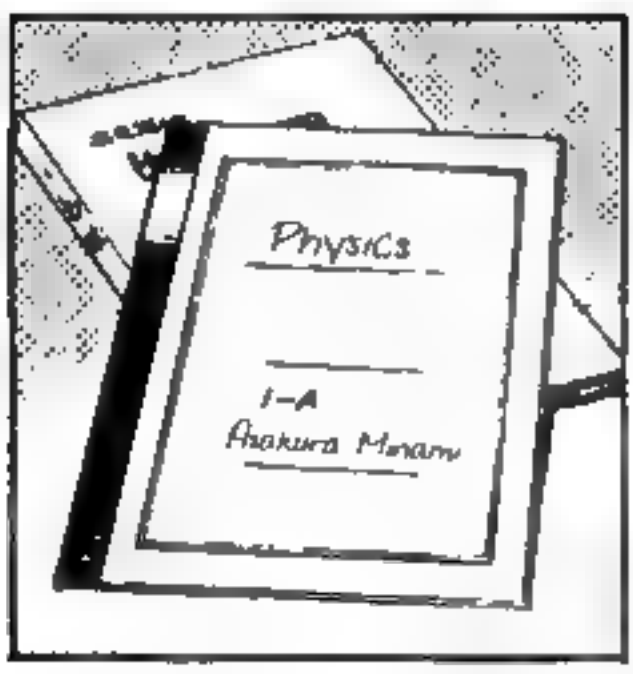
THIS HOME-WORK...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?


CLICK


GLOW!

AHH-AH.

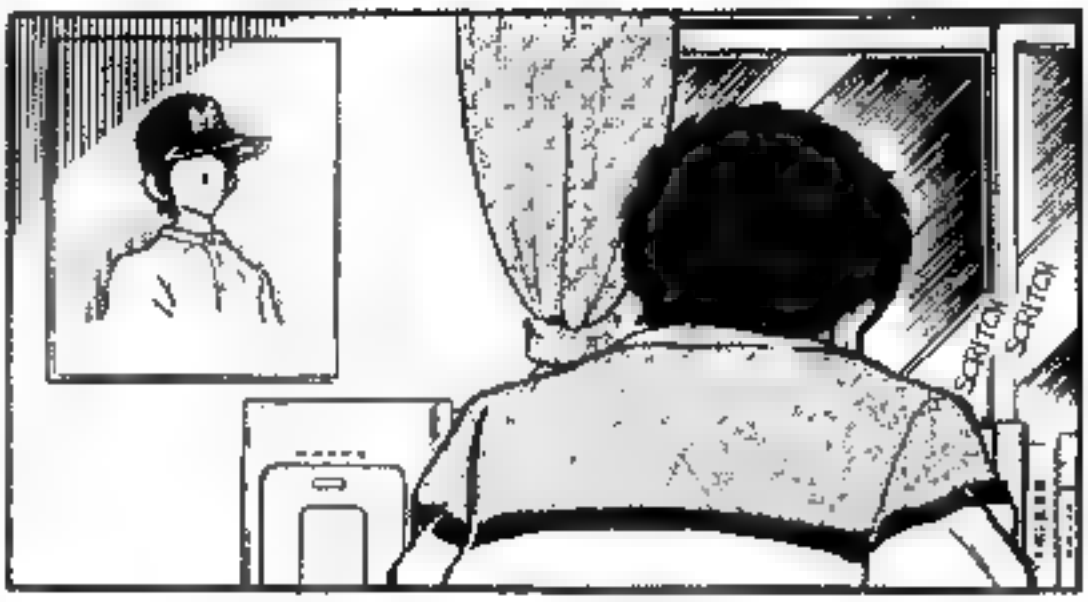



Physics
1-A
Asakura Minami

AHH-AH.
SQUEAK...

THAT GIRL.
WHEN'D SHE..?

MMM...



Scanned by Ich jo, from #MangaProject on irc.mircx.com

Meisei High School

CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP...

Seiko Record Store

GOOD MORNING, HESUGI-KUN.

RECORD SLEEVE <PROLOGUE (ONE-SIDE), NAKAMORI AKINA>

..

OH...

NAKAMORI AKINA, HUH? YOU HAVE GOOD TASTE ...

1-A

YES!

CHATTER

Math 1

.....

ZZZ

ASAKURA!

SO THEN, HERE...

$x^2 - y^2$

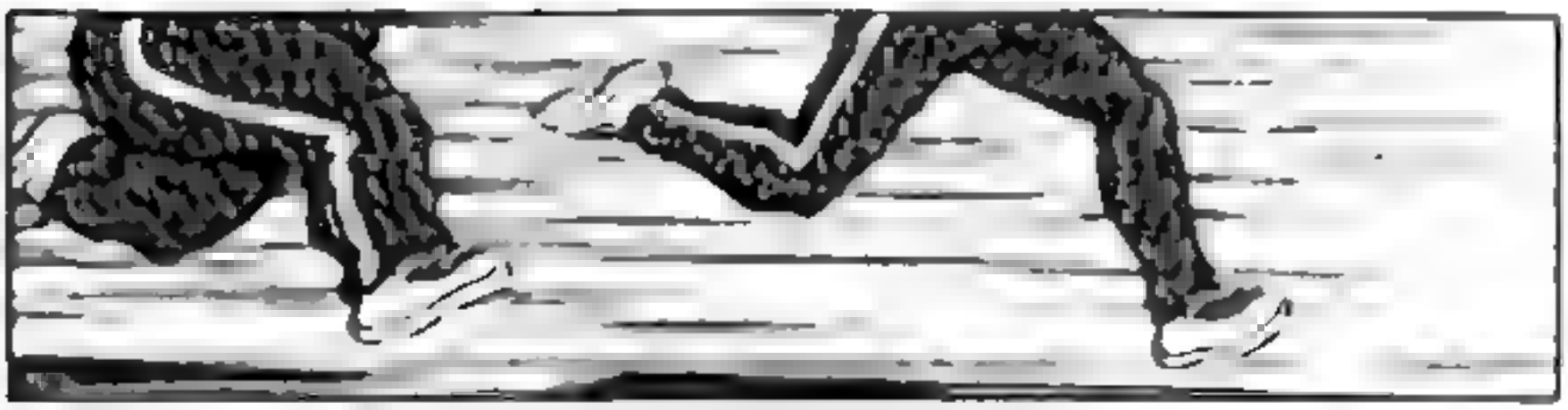
LUMM...

ZZZ

SIT DOWN

RIGHT ...

タッチ9



SO FA-A-AST.

ALL RIGHT. NEXT.

HEH HEH...

HA HA.

IT'S NOTHING MUCH.

11.8.

11.8.

HM?

WHAT WAS YOUR TIME?

PHWEET!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

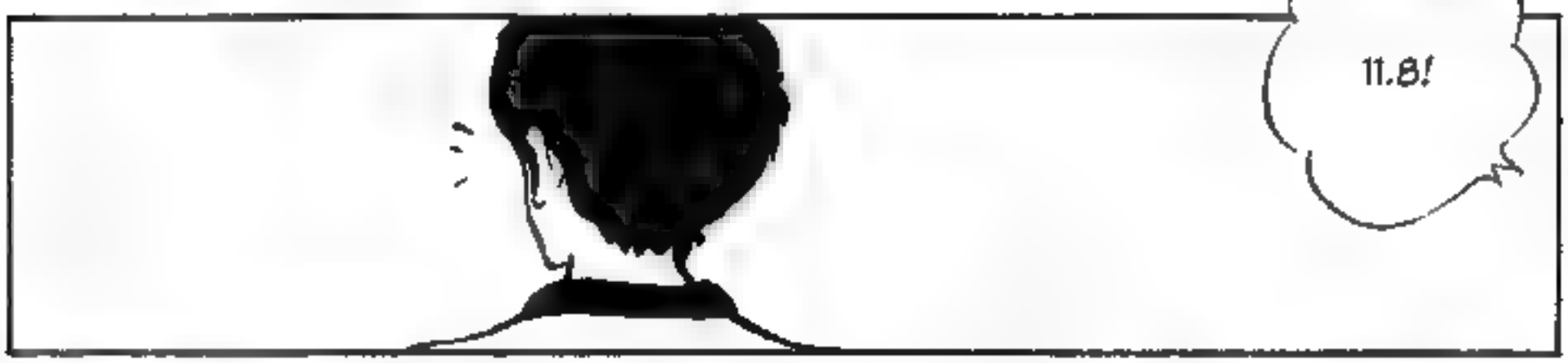
I ONLY GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR THAT!

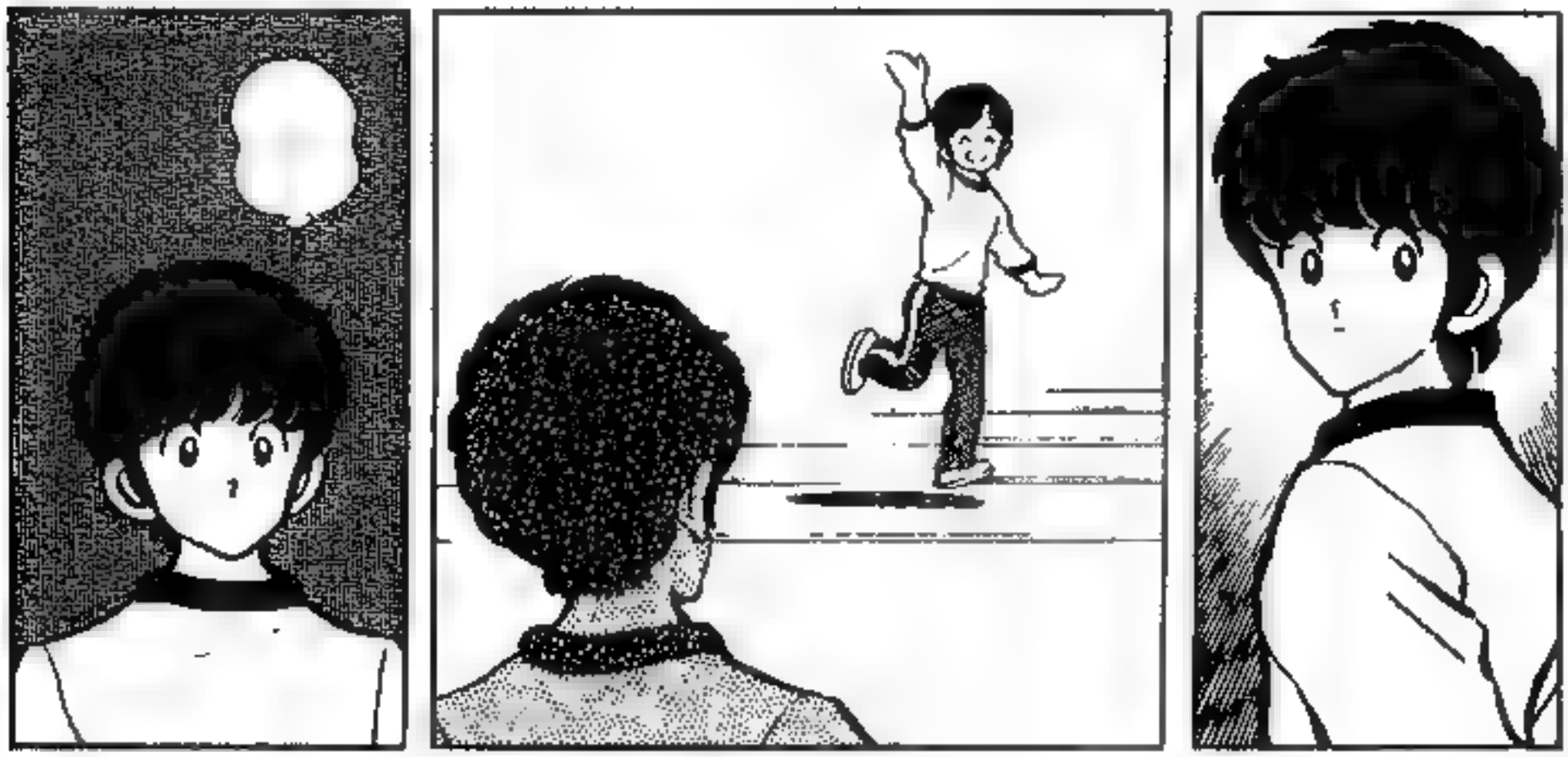
IN LEGS ONLY. HE'S OF KAZUYA-LEVEL QUALITY...

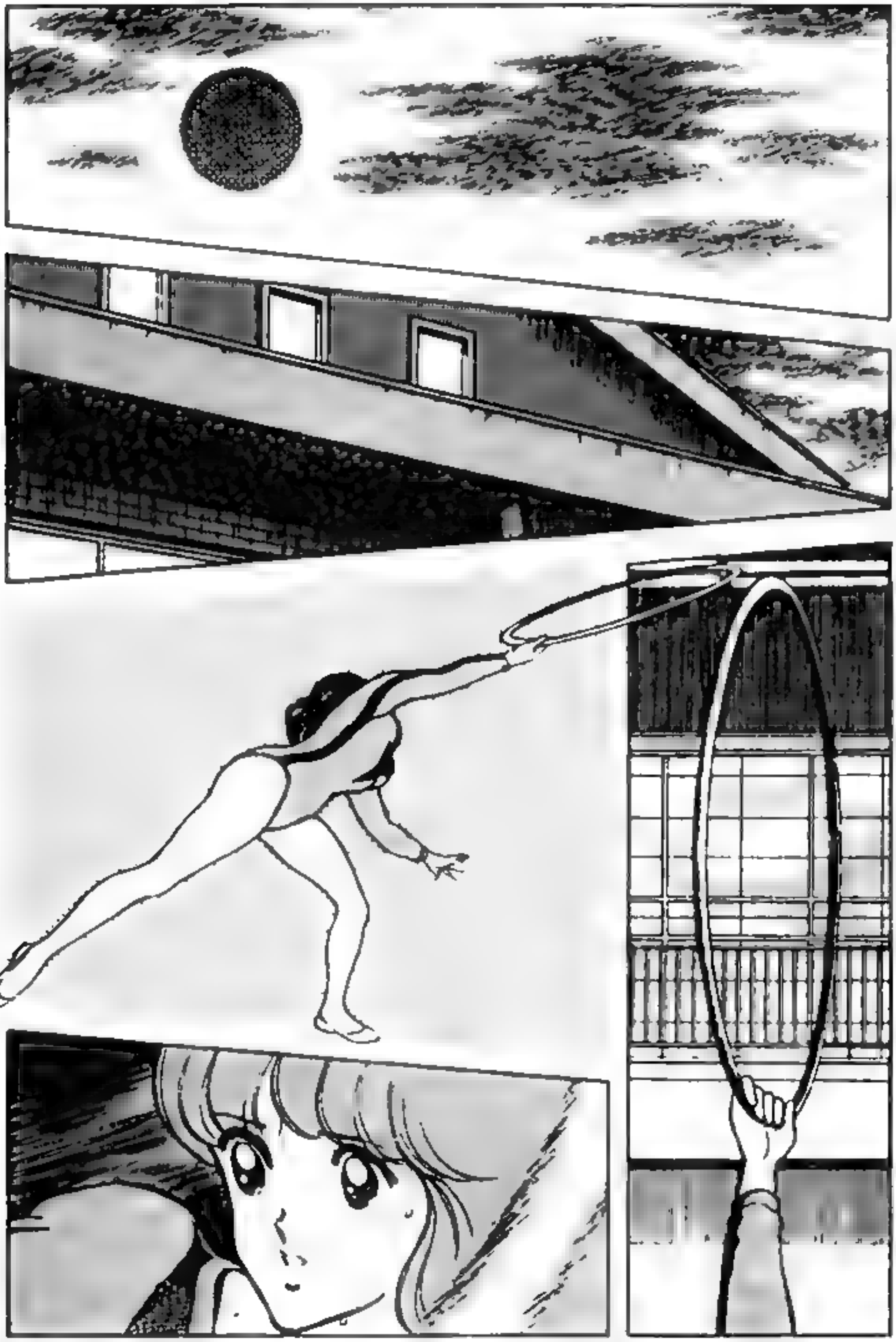
AHEM.

PHWEET!

MAYBE, MAYBE.


11.8!





MINAMI-CHAN'S RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS.

HM?

LESLIE!

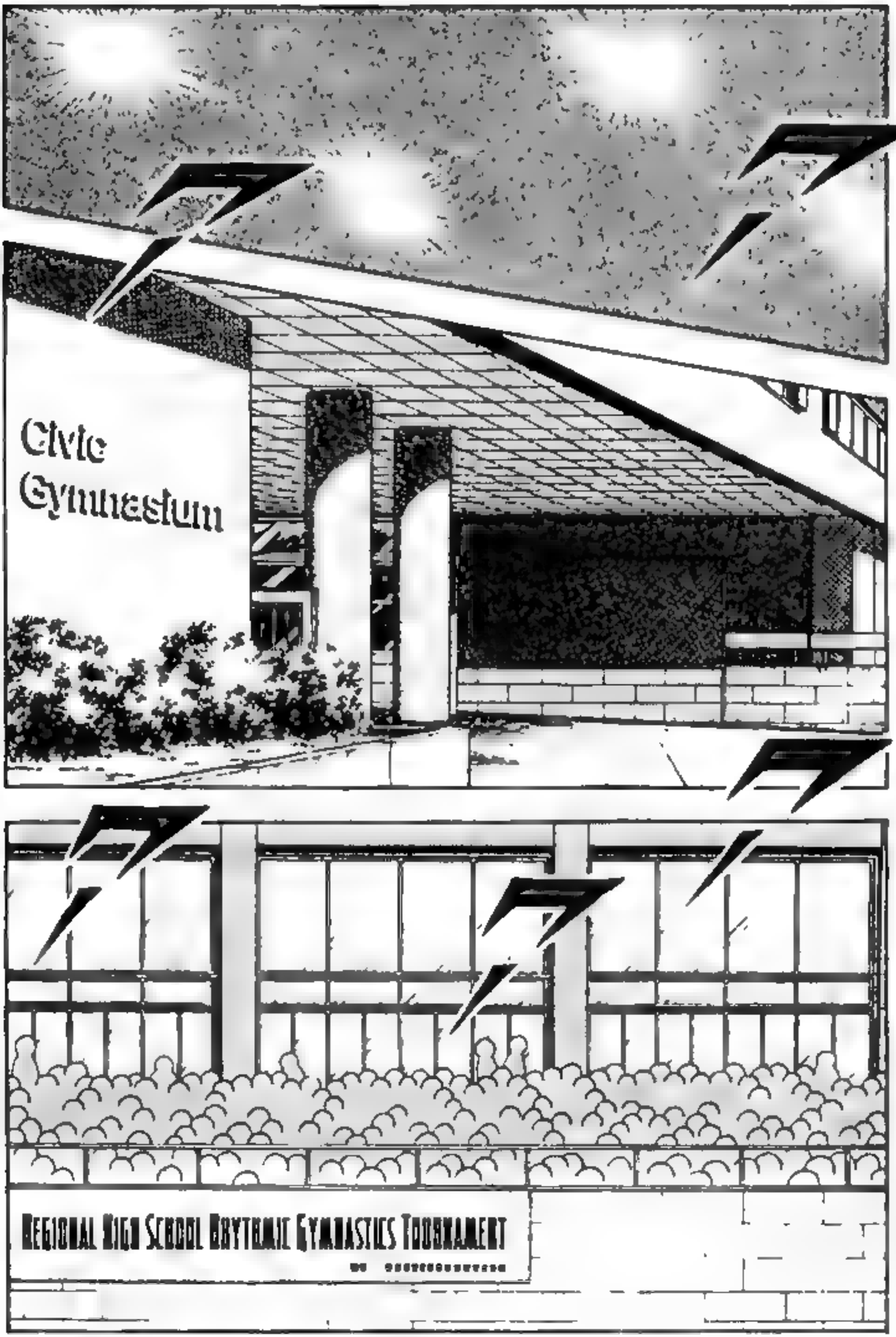
WHAT TIME DOES IT START TOMORROW?

WHO CARES?

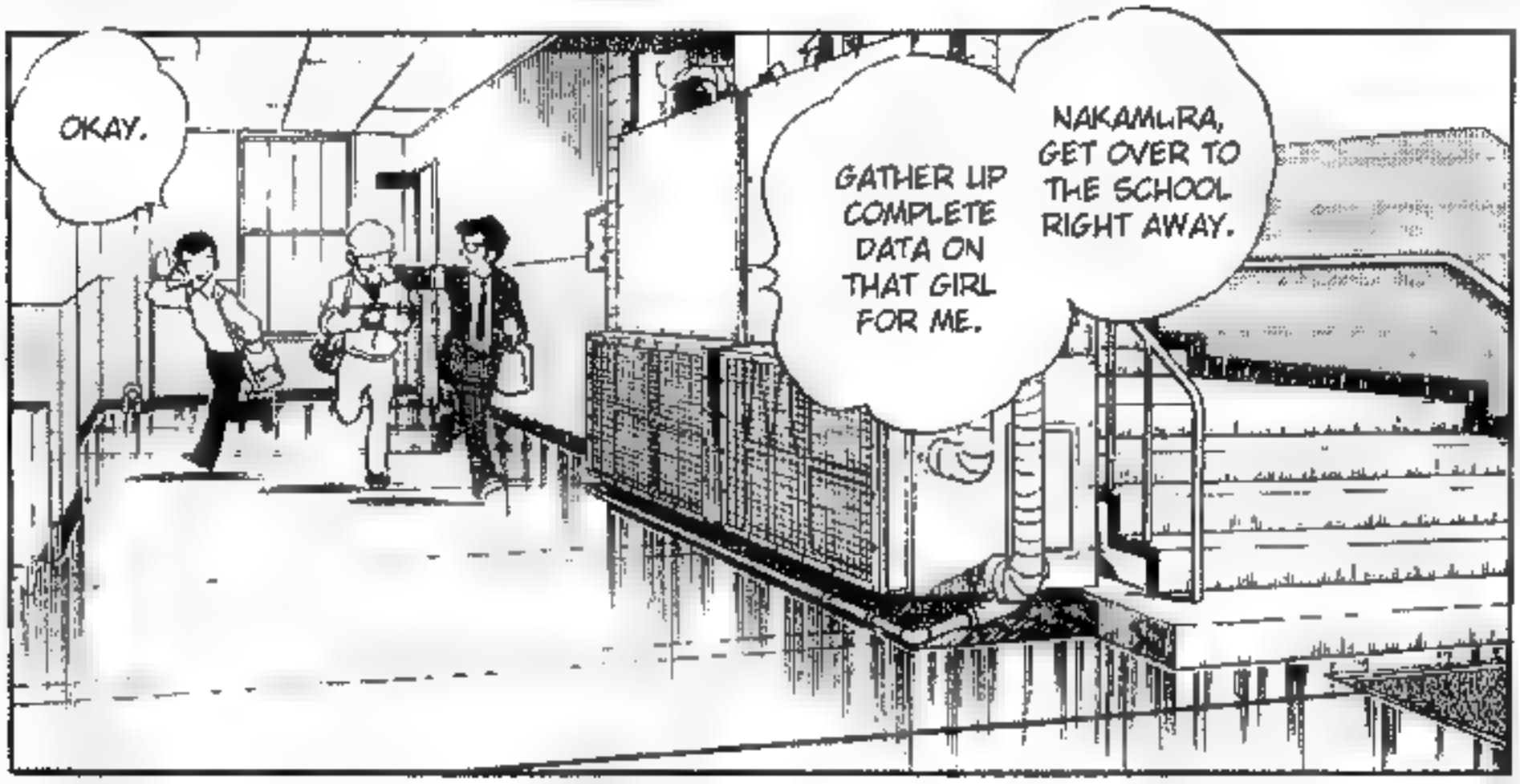
DAMN!

IS IT AT 1:00?

Hurrah, Hurrah!


Civic
Gymnasium
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS TOURNAMENT

HEY, HURRY!
SHE'S NEXT!!


OKAY.
GATHER UP COMPLETE DATA ON THAT GIRL FOR ME.
NAKAMURA, GET OVER TO THE SCHOOL RIGHT AWAY.

I KNOW.

ASAKURA MINAMI, RIGHT?

DON'T MAKE A MISTAKE. THE MEISEI HIGH GIRL...

THUMP

THUMP

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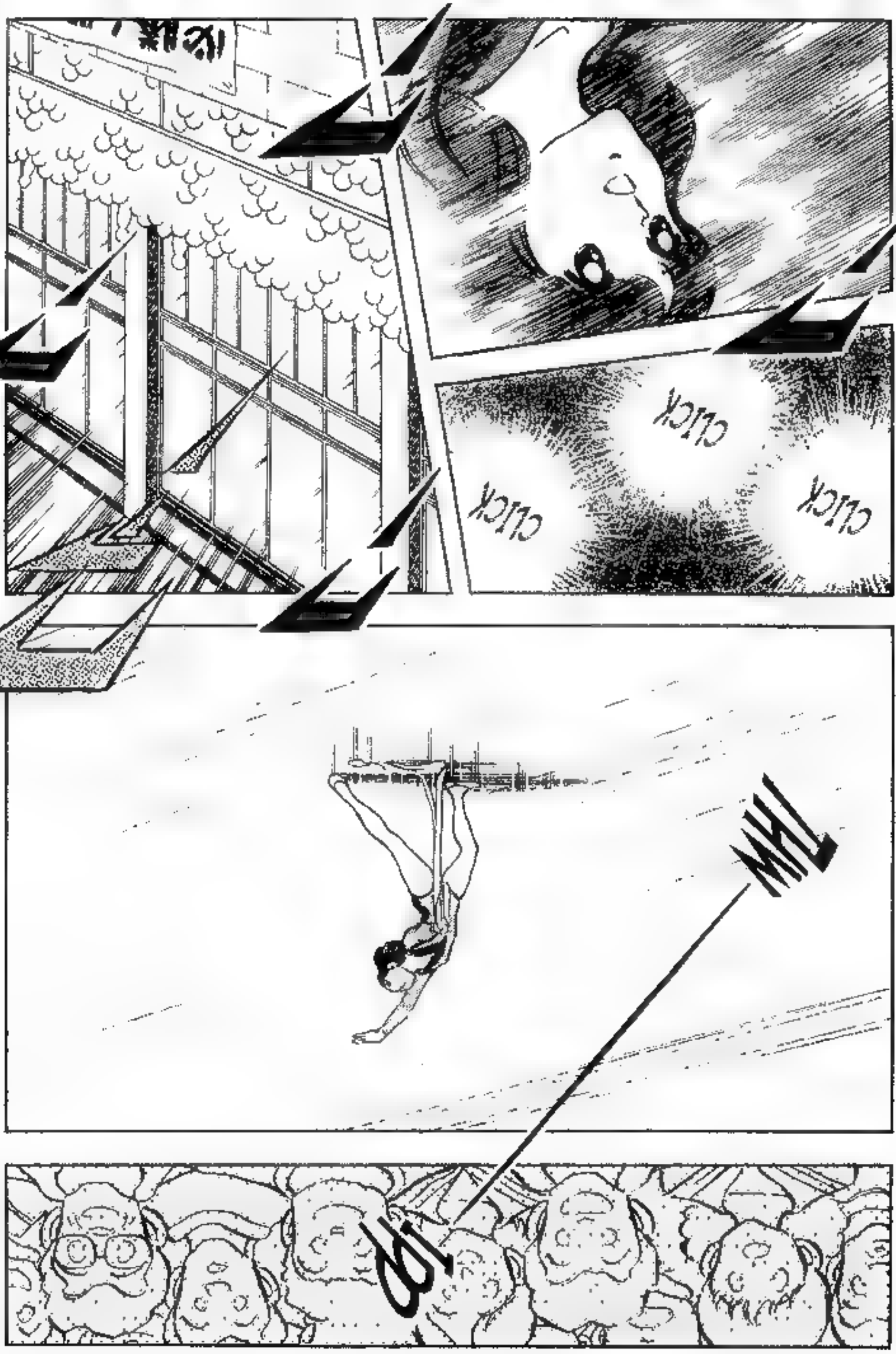

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
WHAT

AND NOW, ASAKURA'S SCORE ON HER PERFORMANCE...

9.75!

9.75

NOW SHE'S RANKED AT THE TOP IN ALL-AROUND MARKS, TOO!

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE ROPE?

....

MAYBE...

TAT-
CHA-A-AN!

WHA?

SEE YA.

THEN, "TAT-CHAN" ...

. . . .

BUZZ

BUZZ

BUZZ

WHAT KIND OF CONNECTION DO YOU HAVE WITH HER?

EXCUSE ME. . THE GYMNAST ASAKURA ...

. . . .

HURRAH, HURRAH!

A 1ST-YEAR STUDENT AT MEISEI HIGH!

OUT-STANDING LOOKS AND PROPOR-TIONS!

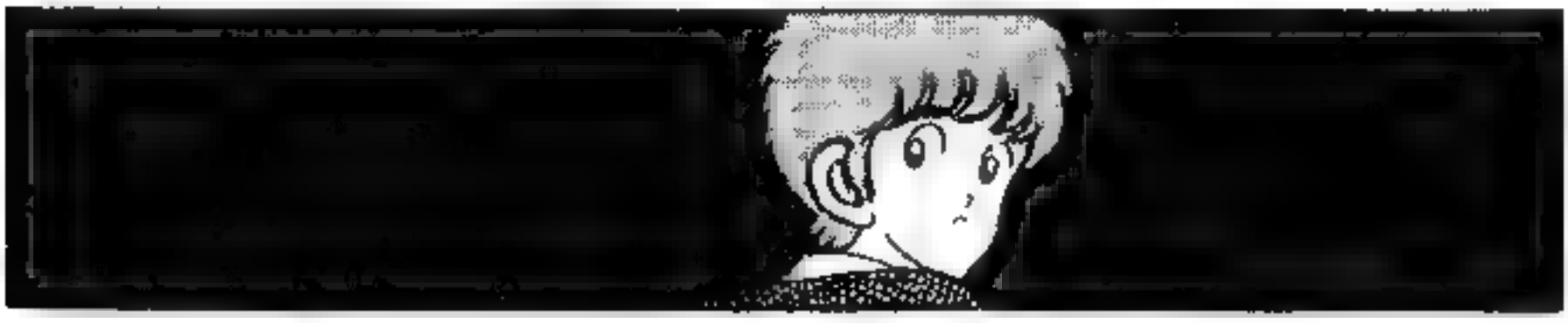
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING! GEEZ.

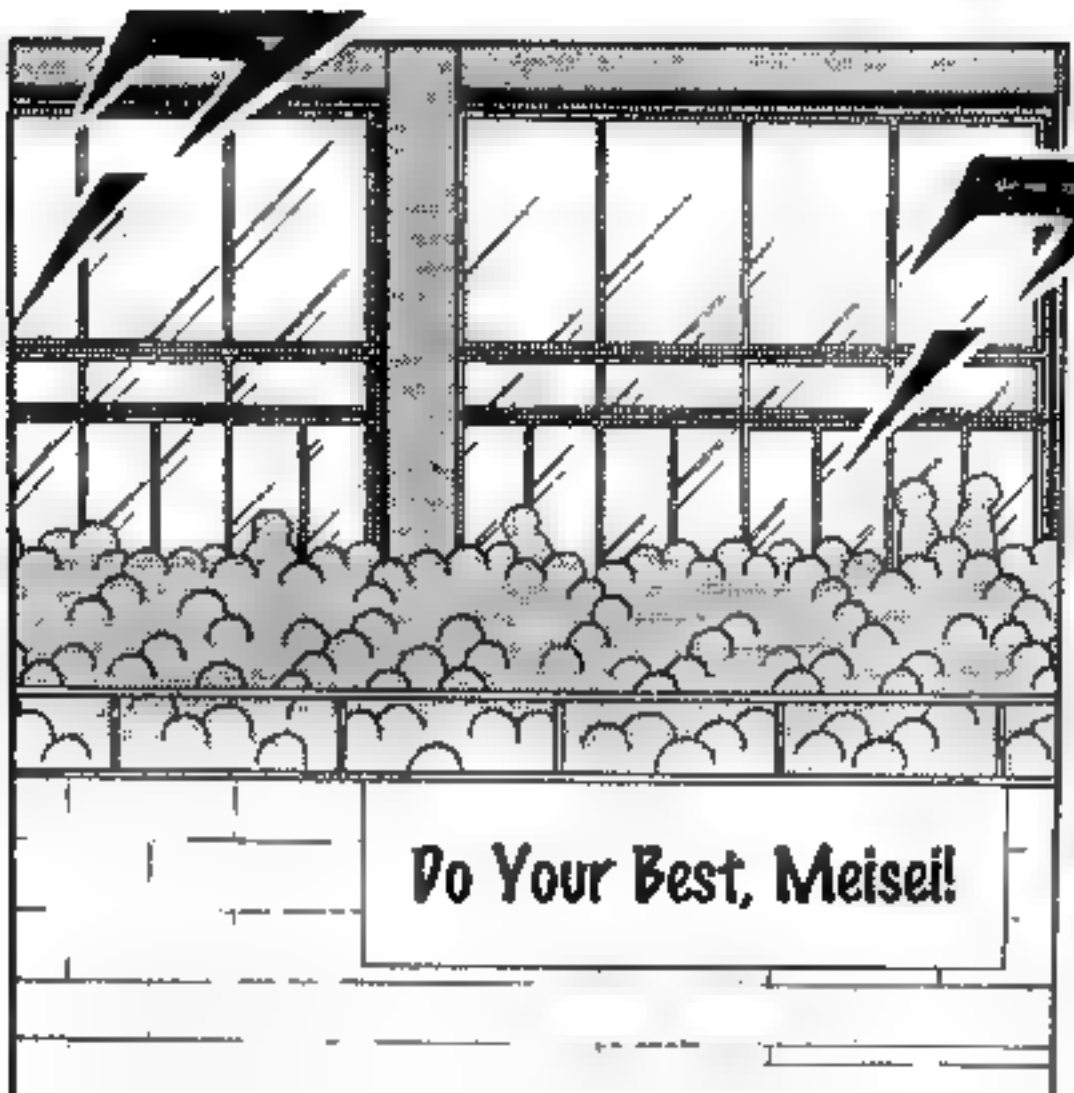
WHAT WERE THE OTHER GIRLS DOING UP TO NOW?

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS IS SURE LIGHT-WEIGHT.

GEH.

MINAMI'S AT THE TOP?

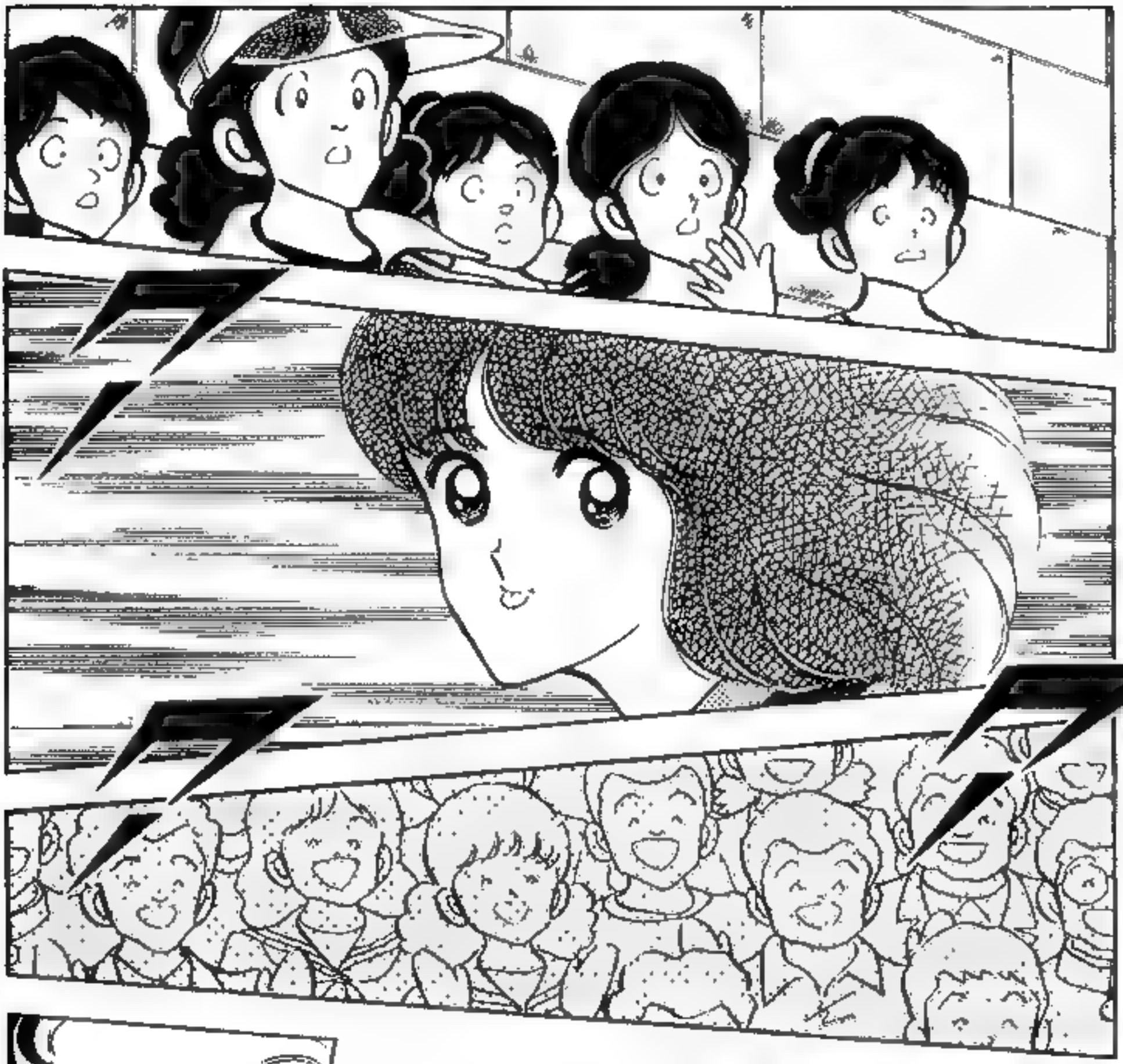


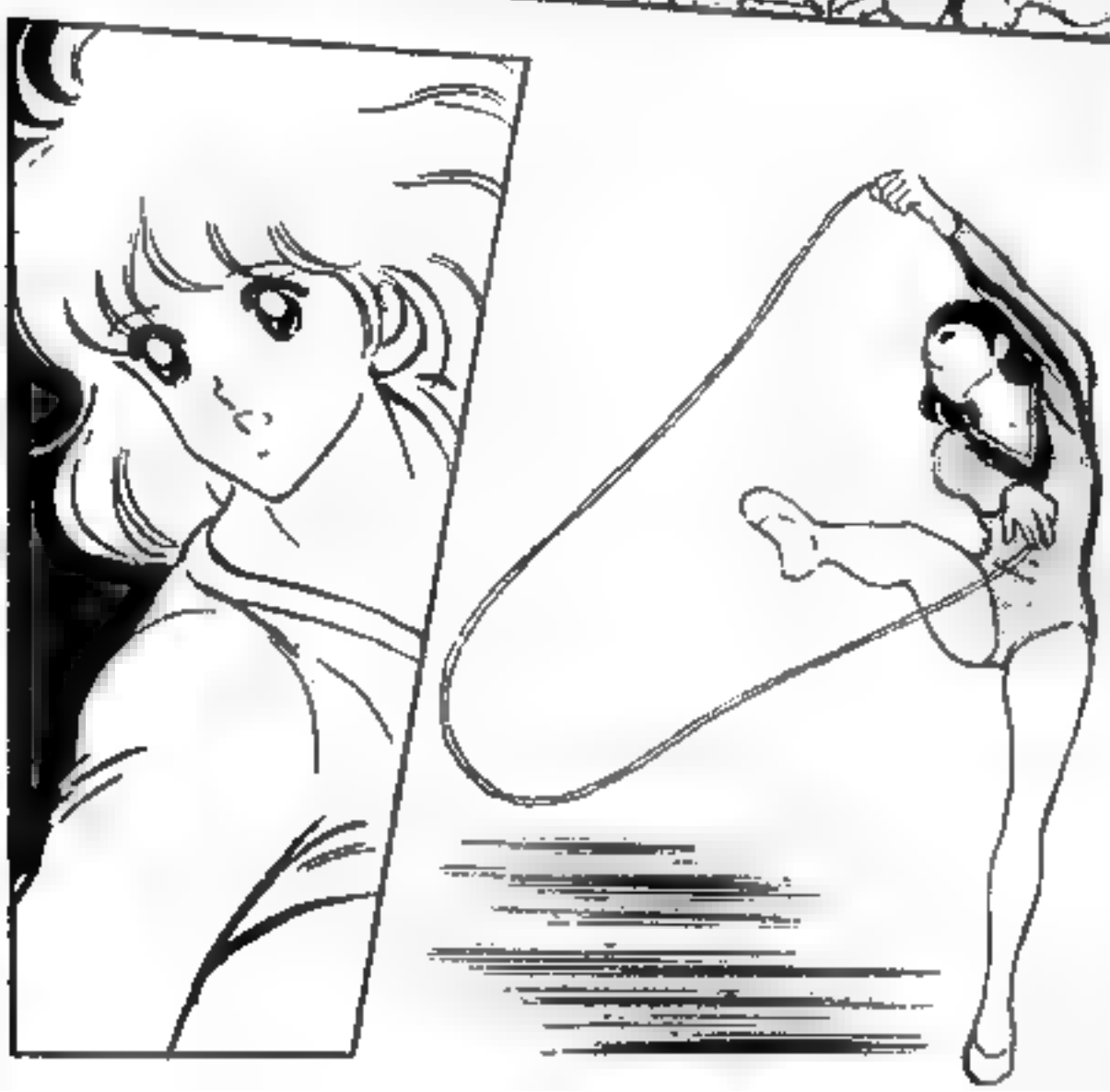


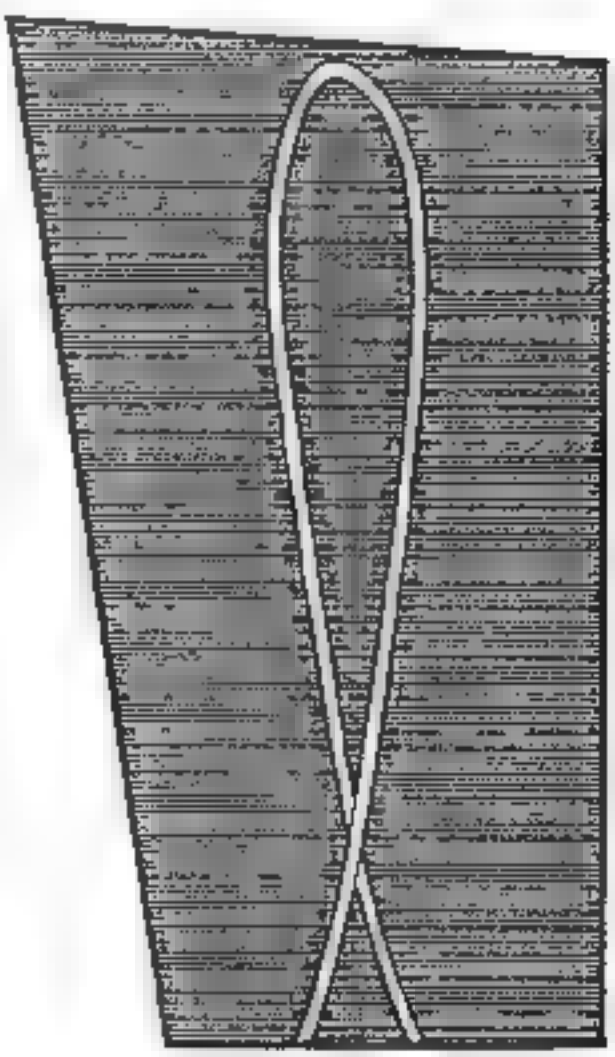
Do Your Best, Meisei!

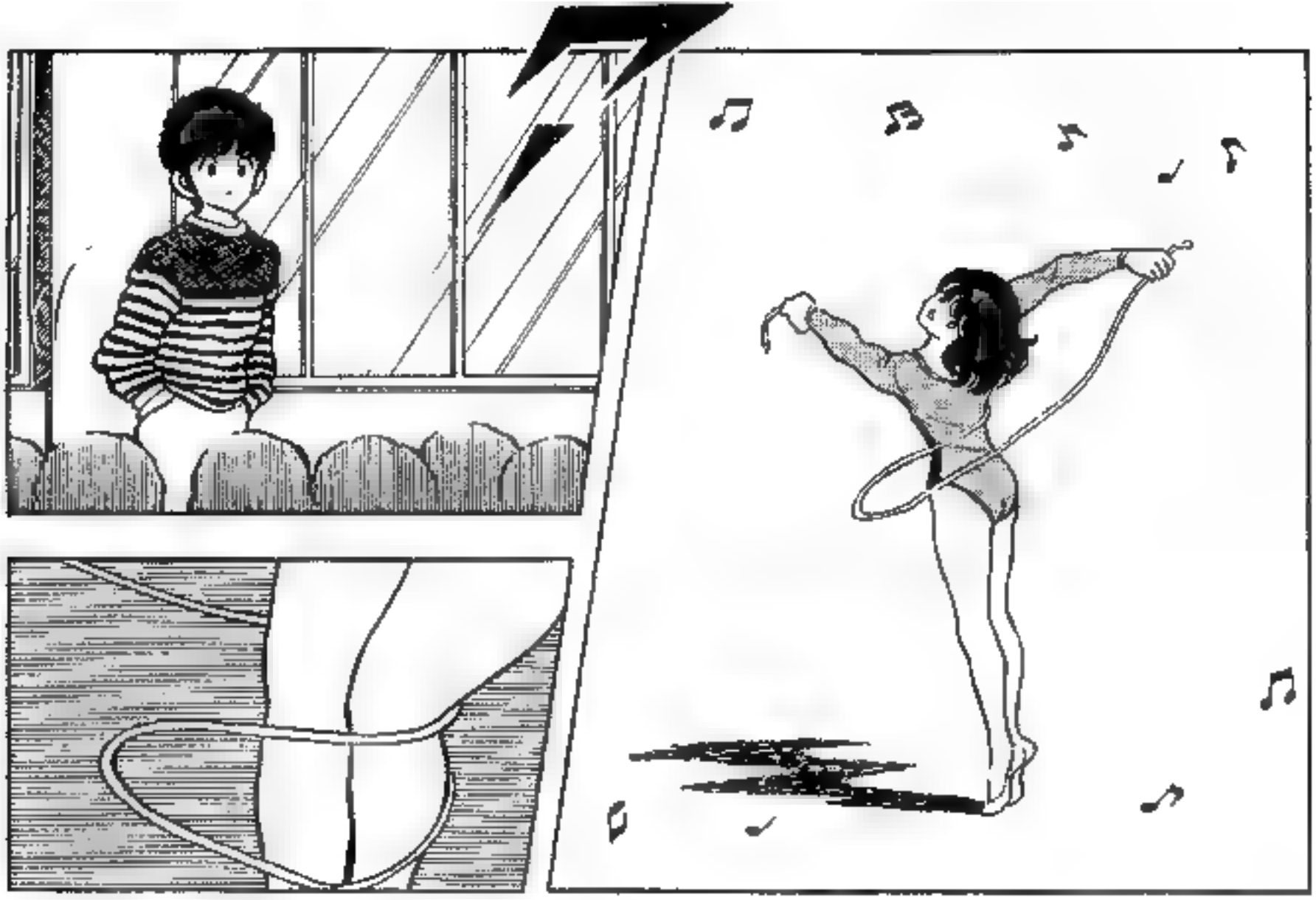
GEEZ.

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!









Tump

8.90!

8 90

AND NOW, THE SCORE...

DON'T GET ANGRY WITH ME.

WHAT'S THI-I-IS!?

WHA...

PRETTY FLASHY, HUH?

DROPPED?

SHE DROPPED THE ROPE.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

RIGHT?

'CAUSE IT'S A WONDER THAT SHE HASN'T MISSED TILL NOW.

THAT'S RIGHT...

AH, I SEE ..

JUST AS I THOUGHT. .

I SEE. SHE DROPPED IT, HUH?

HA HA. .

WITH THAT PERFORMANCE, SHE'S MADE A STRONGER IMPRESSION ON EVERYONE.

BUT...

.....

THE THOROUGH MAKINGS OF A STAR!

FIRST IN THE INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND... FROM KOMADA GIRLS HIGH, OCHIAI MIDORI!

SECOND... FROM UNO SCHOOL OF COMMERCE, NAKAO YOUKO!

THIRD... FROM MEISEI HIGH, ASAKURA MINAMI!

PAM PAM

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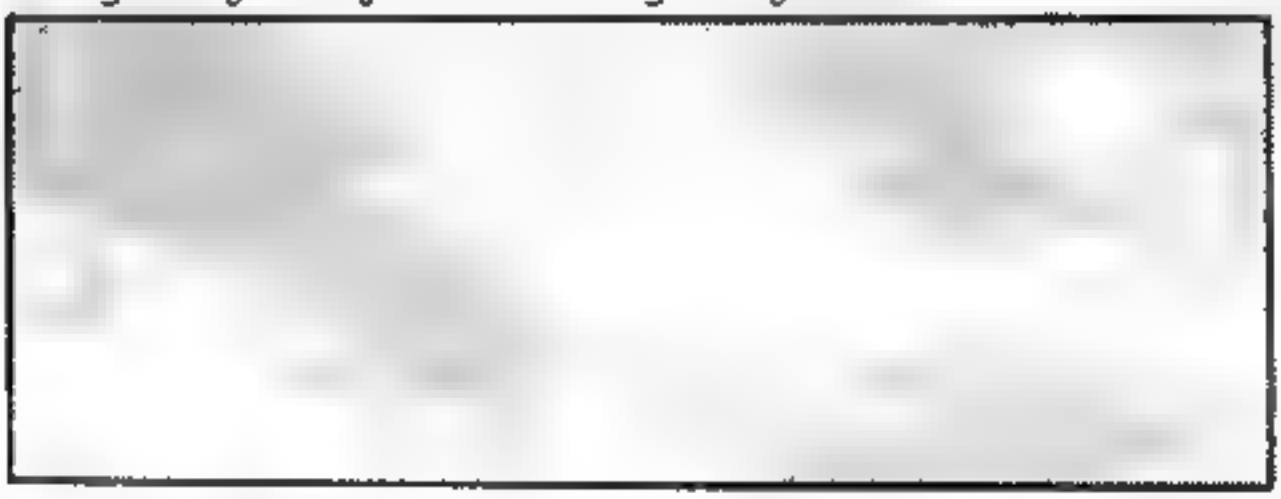
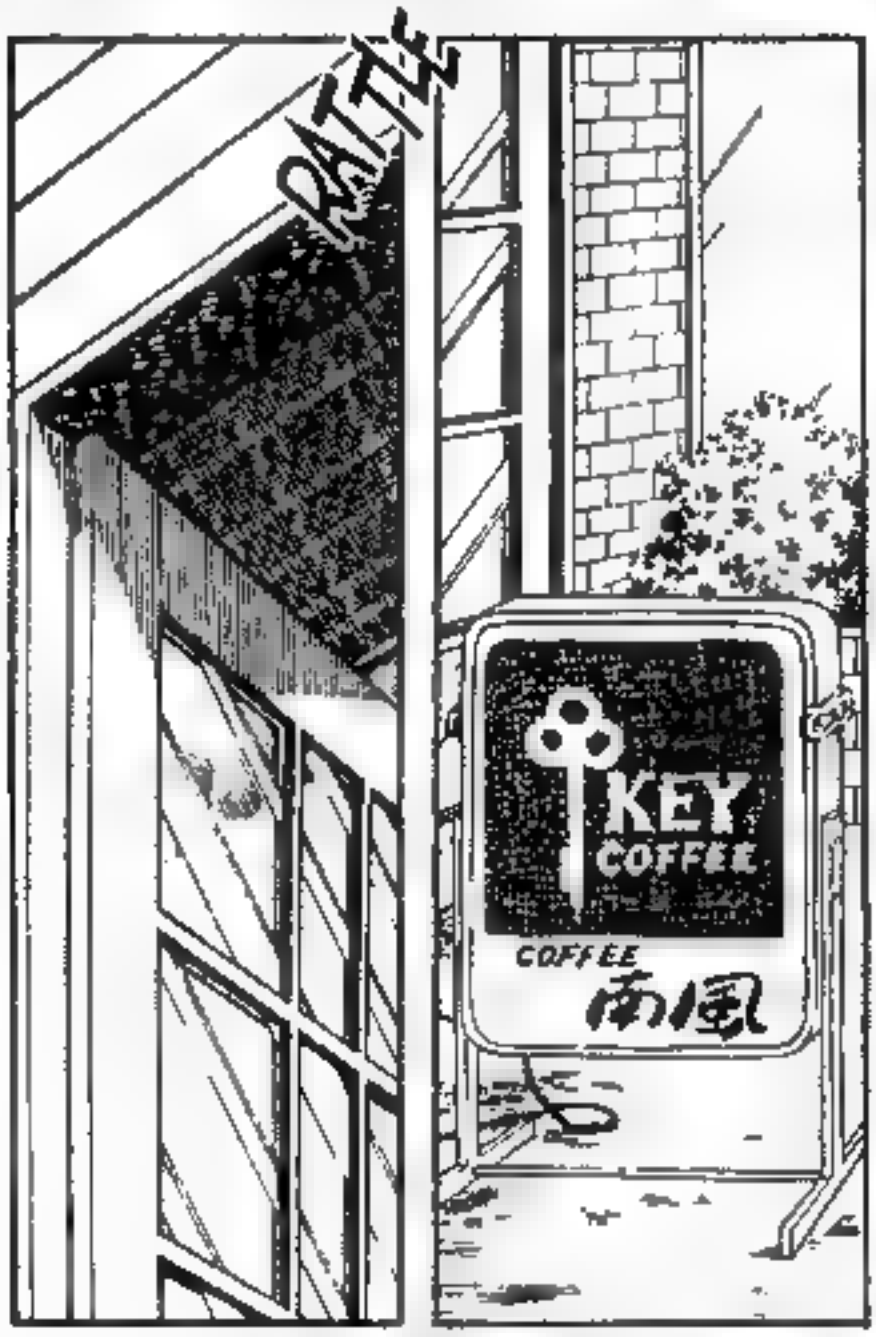


IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT IF YOU WERE JUST A SWEET AND GENTLE MANAGER...

IDIOT



HOT COFFEE.

GORO

YO.

SHE DIDN'T DISGRACE HERSELF?

HOW DID MINAMI DO?

THERE WAS NO NEED TO WORRY.

RATTLE

YOU WERE RIGHT ON THE WAY.

AH, PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

UH-HUH

HM?

A GIFT FROM MY GRANDMA OUT IN THE COUNTRY...

HERE.

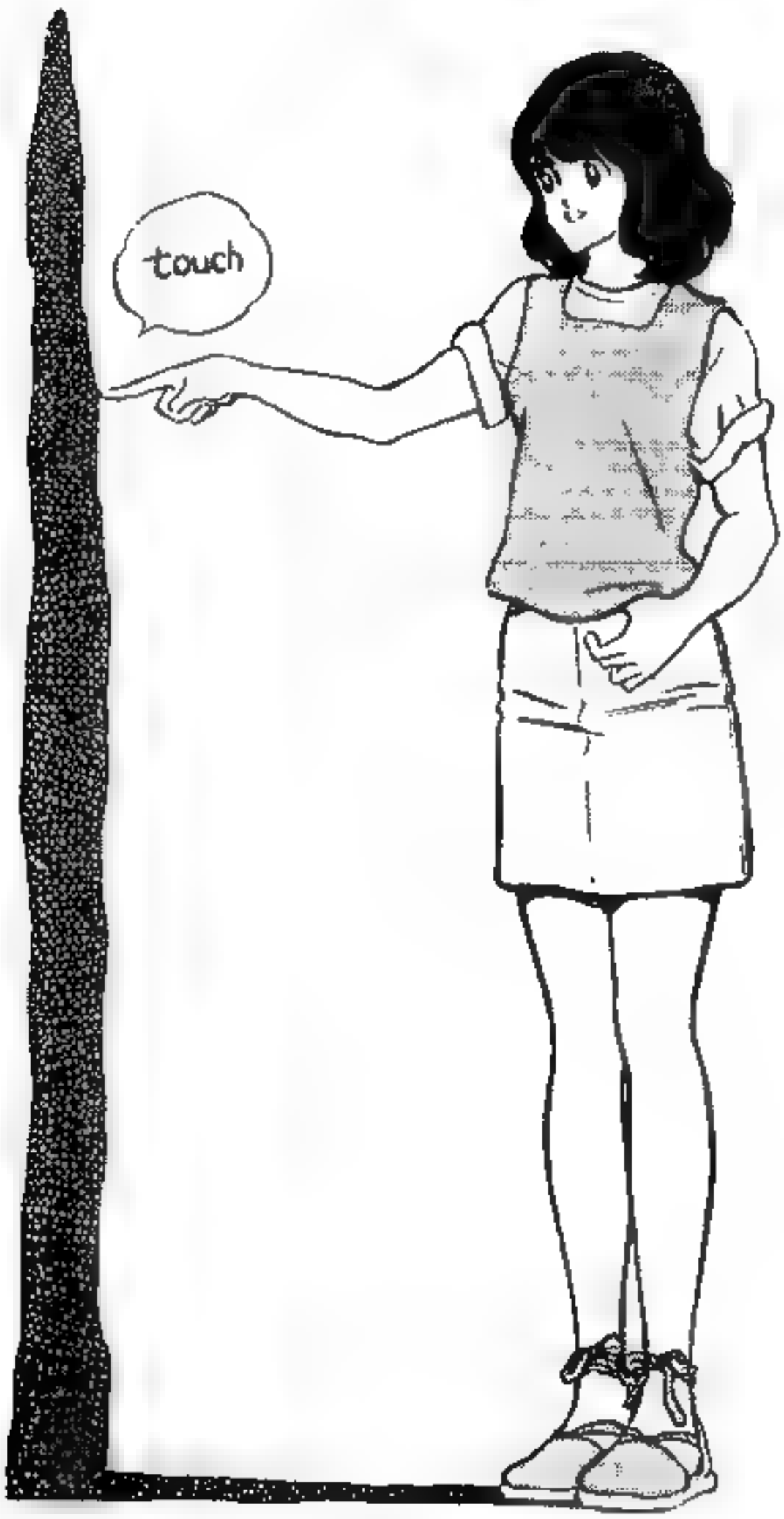
.....

WELL, SEE YA.

DUNNO...

WHAT WAS THAT? ...

That's the Way



WEEKLY

SHONEN MAGAZINE

(16)

Aoshima

Hiyoshi

Motoi

A NEW STAR IN THE WORLD OF HIGH SCHOOL RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS!!

The charming 1st-year student...

Who makes a pinch-hit appearance!

Height 159 B82-W57-H85

MangaProject cjb net / MangaProjects com

WAHHH

BALL!

STRIKE!

TEAM	1	2	3
M.T.			
MEISEI			

BALL!

MEI SE

MEI SE

MEI SE

SCORE BOOK

BALL!

BALL FOUR!

SFX. <WAHHH>

SFX. <WHAP>

MangaProject.cjb.net

IT'S STILL EARLY.

SHUDDUP.

GREAT!! THAT'S THE WAY!

DUMMY, I WASN'T BEING SARCASTIC.

THAT'S THE WAY!!

GEEZ.

.....

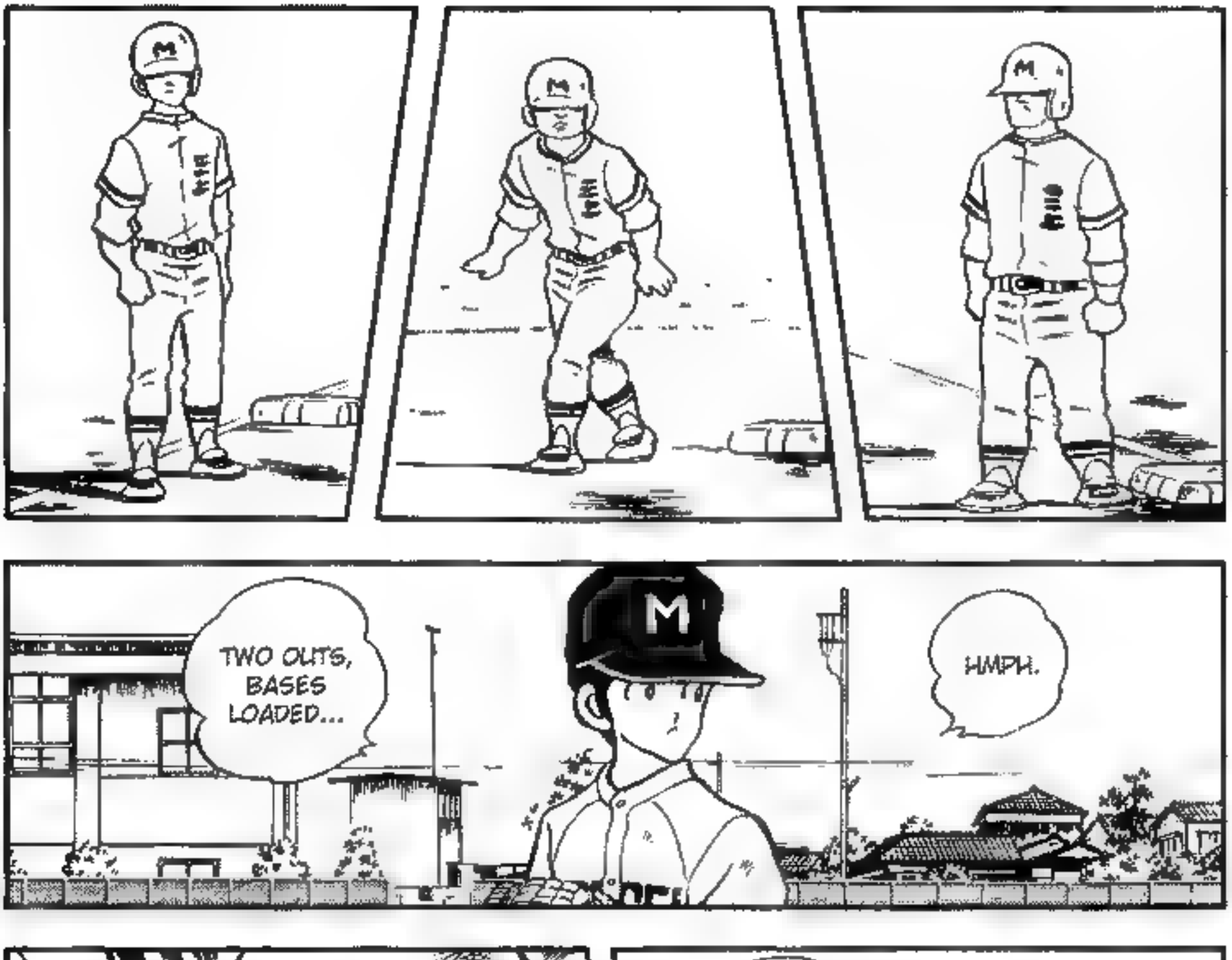
Y'JERK!

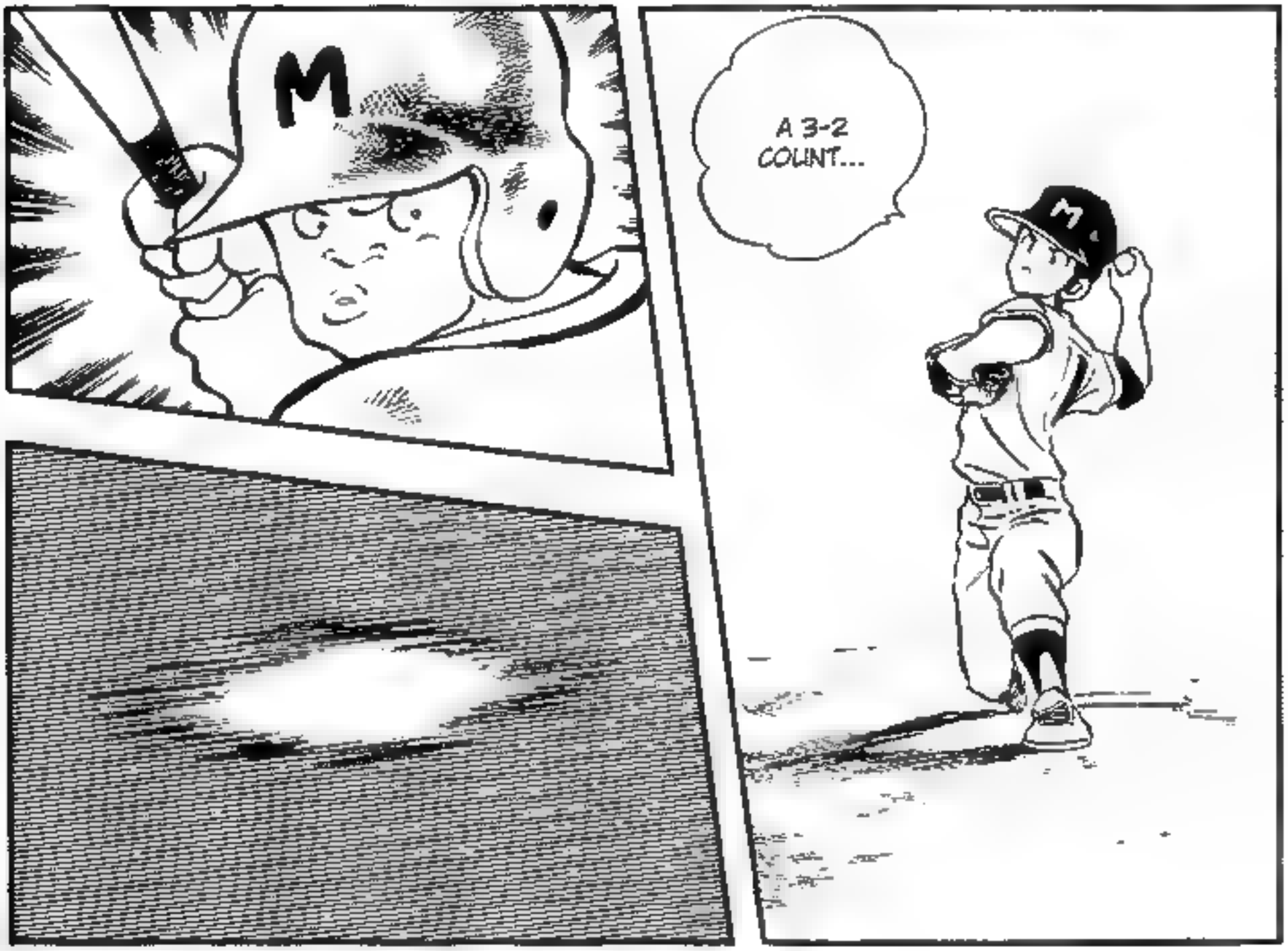
THEN, I'LL GO ON AHEAD.

YES?

ONE MOMENT

AH, ASAKURA-SAN


TWO OUTS, BASES LOADED...
HMPH.


A 3-2 COUNT...

SFX: <THUD>

STRIKE! YOU'RE OUT!

.....

!

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE.

YOU ...

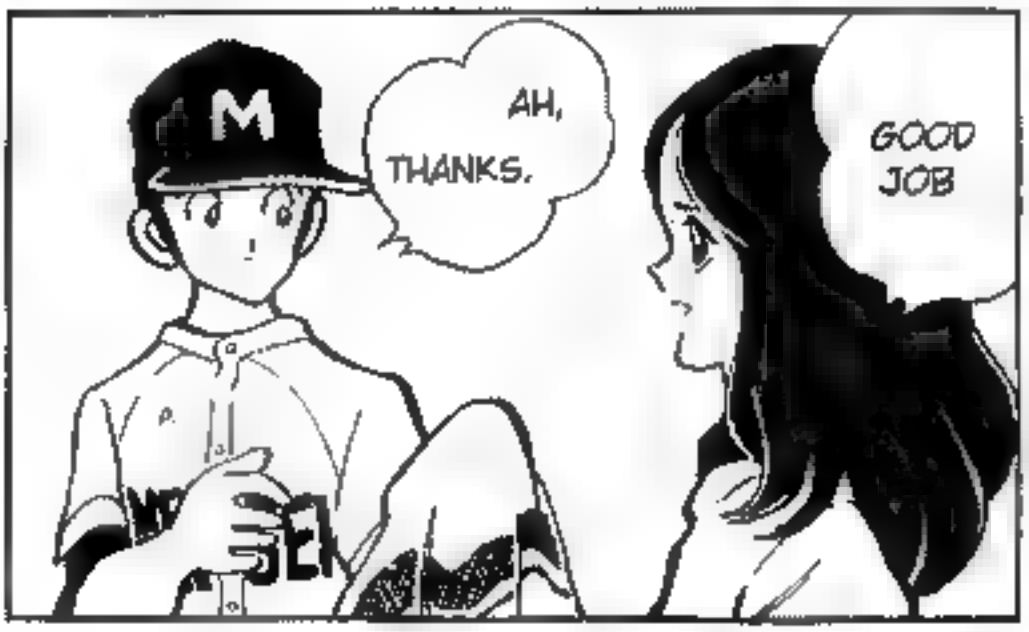
... ..

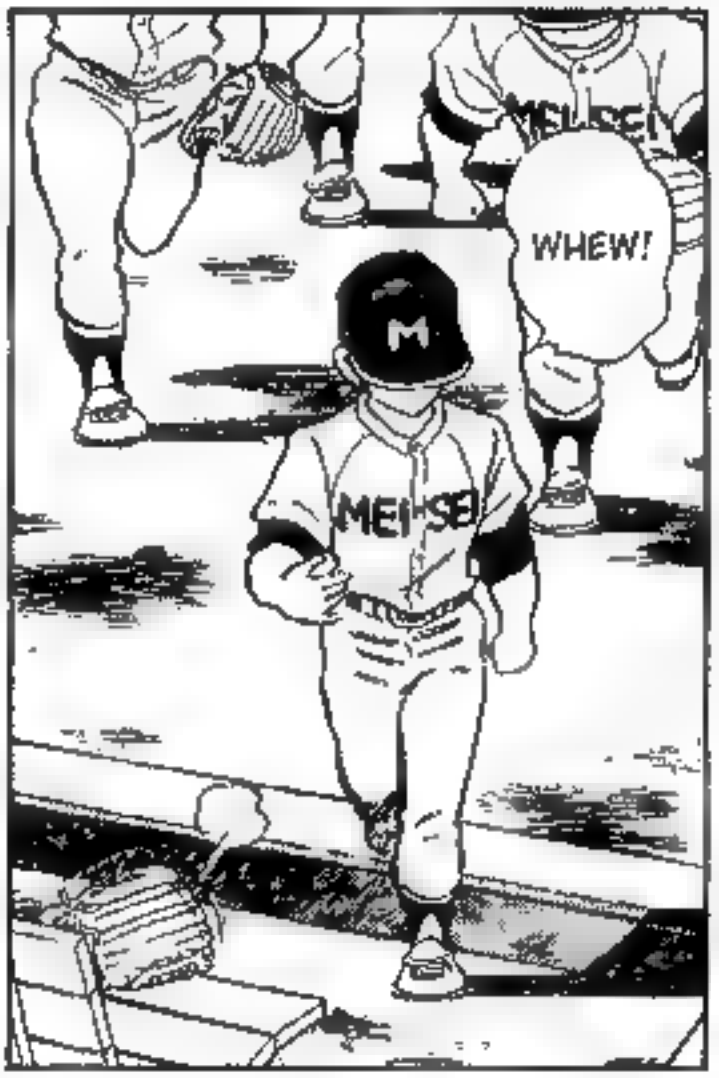
AH.

HMF

SHOULD I PRAISE HIM OR GET ANGRY?

TWO WALKS, A HIT BATTER.
THREE STRIKE-OUTS.


AH, THANKS.
GOOD JOB


WHEW!

WHERE'S MINAMI?

THAT'S TRUE.
SO SHE SAID SHE'D FINISH EARLY.
TODAY IS THE BASEBALL TEAM'S PRACTICE GAME...

STILL NOT HERE.

NOW, EVEN IF SHE SAYS SHE'S QUITTING, THE SCHOOL ADMIN STRATION WON'T GIVE THEIR CONSENT.

IT'S ■ECAUSE SHE WAS CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOKYO-AREA TOURNAMENT.

CAN'T BE HELPED.

THE THING IS, SHE PROMISED THAT RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS WOULD ONLY BE UNTIL THE RECENT ATHLETIC MEET.

THE PUBLIC WON'T, E THER, HM.

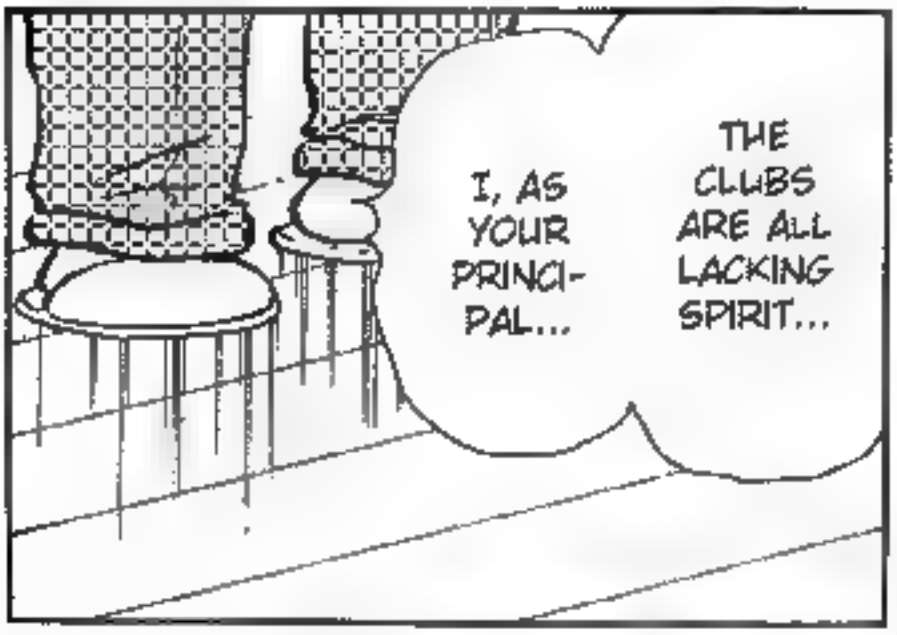
ON TOP OF THAT...

CLI-I-INK

IT WILL BOOST THE SCHOOL'S IMAGE.
SO PLEASE GIVE THEM YOUR COOPERA-TION.
OH, IT'S NOTHING MUCH...

THE GAME CAN BE PLAYED, EVEN WITH NO MANAGER PRESENT, RIGHT?
BUT, THE BASEBALL TEAM'S PRACTICE GAME IS...

A NEWS-PAPER INTERVIEW?


I, AS YOUR PRINCI-PAL...
THE CLUBS ARE ALL LACKING SPIRIT...

I UNDER-STAND.

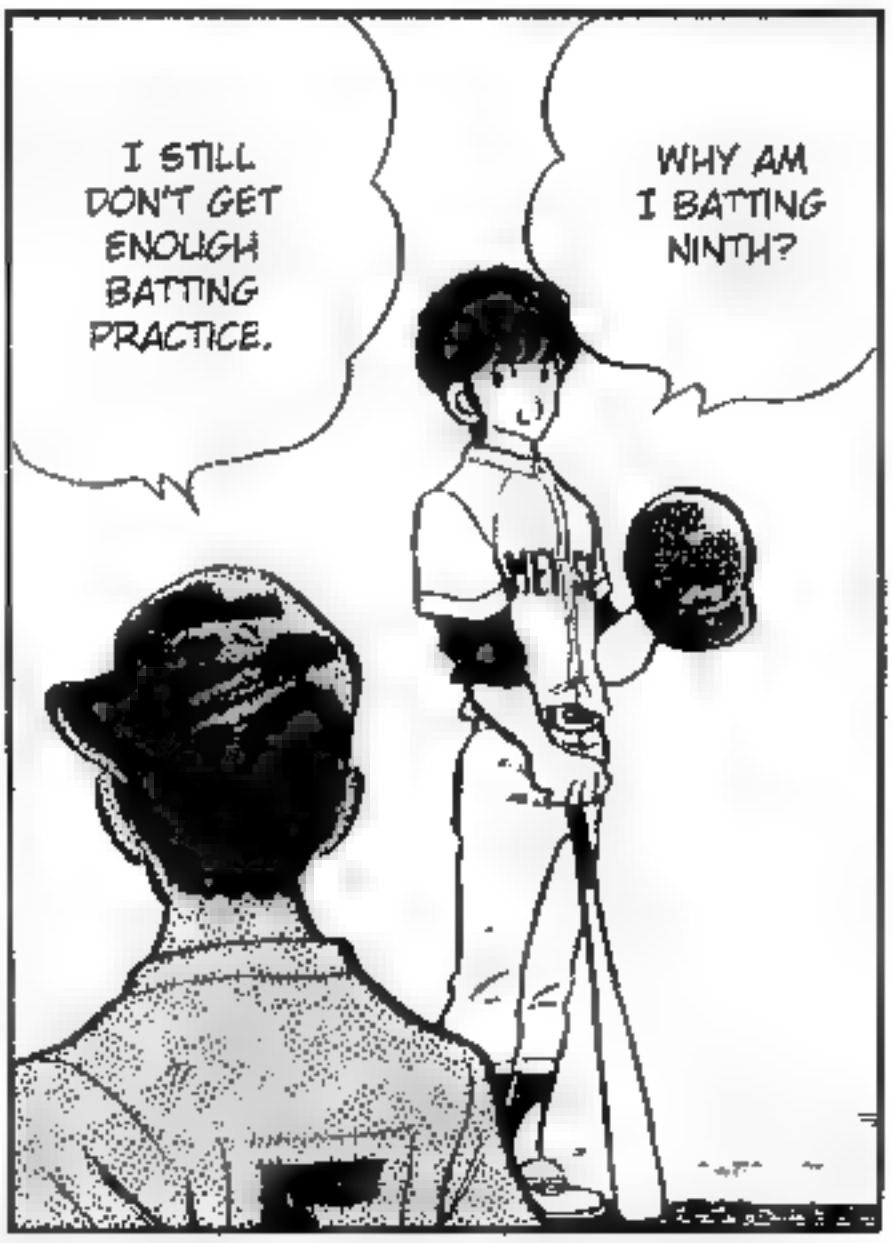
THERE HAVEN'T BEEN MANY CHEERFUL THINGS TO TALK ABOUT AT THIS SCHOOL.
AFTER THE DEATH OF BASEBALL PLAYER UESUGI KAZUYA-KUN...

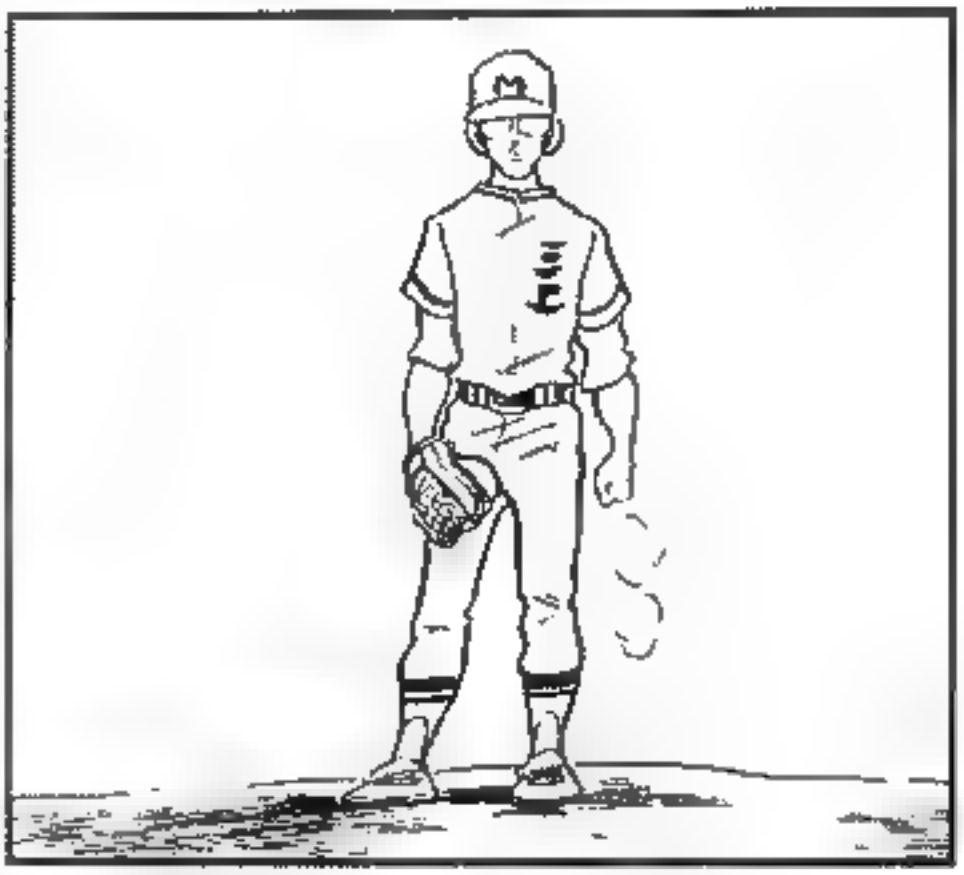
'CAUSE IT SEEMS THEY'LL BE TAKING PICTURES...

AH, JUST AS YOU ARE... IN A LEOTARD

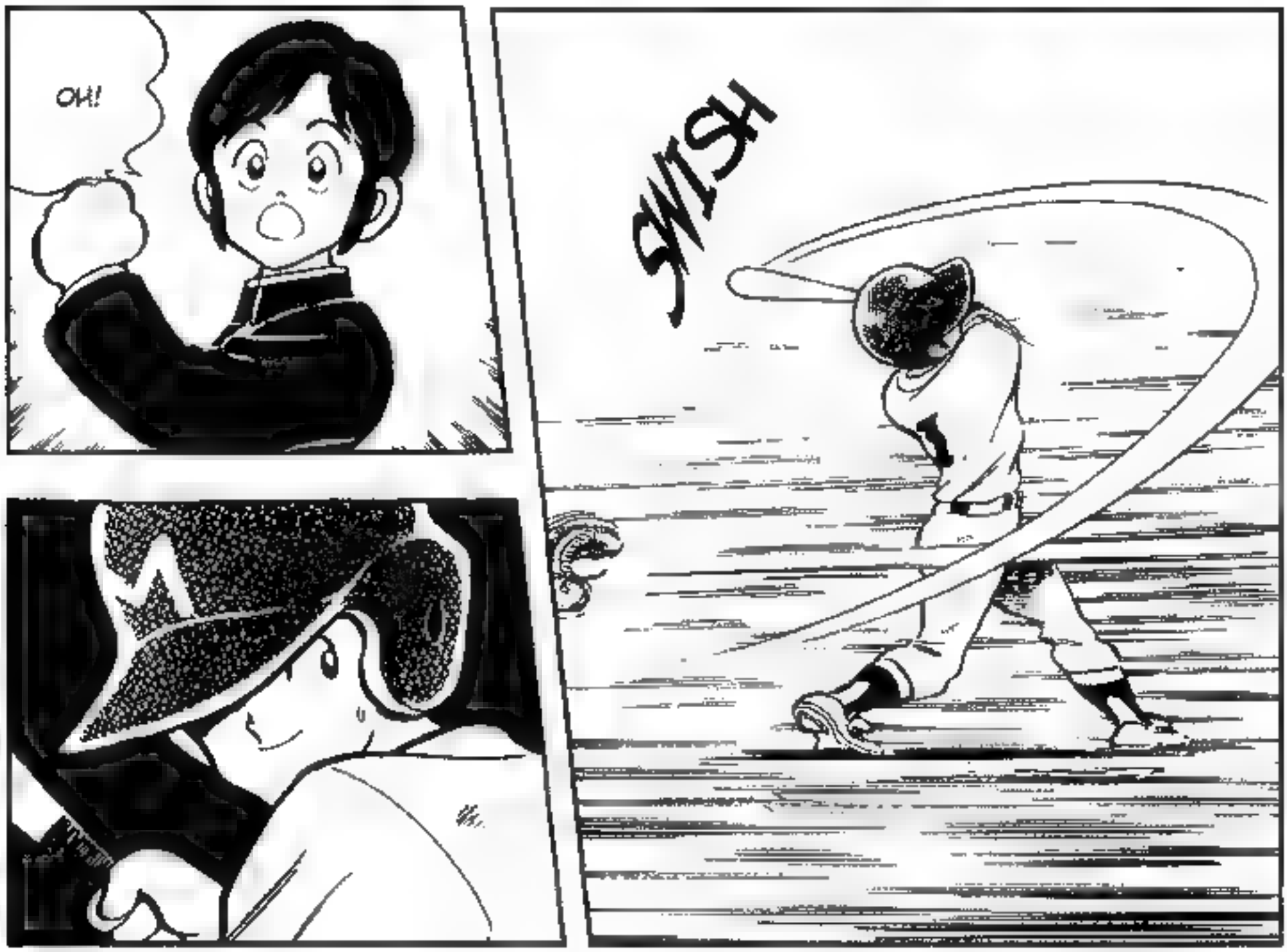
SFX CWAHHH WAHHH?

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
M.T.	0	0	0					
MEISEI	0	0						





WHISH
DO YOUR BEST, UESUGI-KUN!


OH!
SWISH

WHISH

BRING IT ON!

HUH?

CLICK

THWOCK

SAFE!

SAFE!

HMPH.

CLAP CLAP CLAP

BLL

MEI'S

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WAHHH

SEEING WHERE THE 3RD BASEMAN POSITIONED HIMSELF, AND INSTANTLY...

HOW COULD HE...

I SUP-POSE...

YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH.

SAY...

HEY.

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'S ON THE BENCH...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TODAY?

SHE'S ALSO YOUR MANAGER, ISN'T SHE?

ASAKURA MINAMI, THE RHYTHMIC GYMNAST ...

WHAT'LL YOU DO IF YOU MEET HER?

EVEN THOUGH WE REALLY LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING HER...

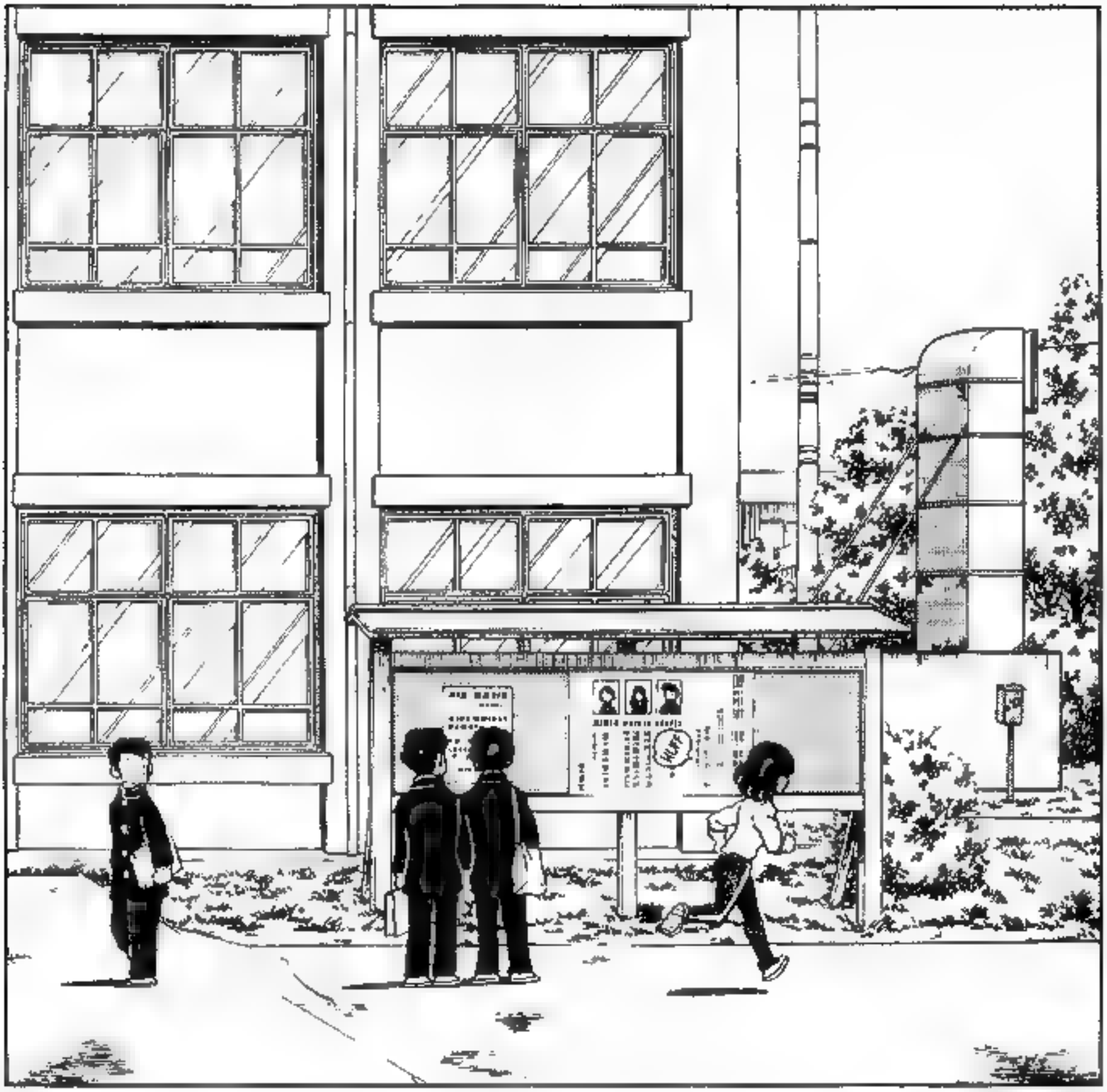
MEI SEI

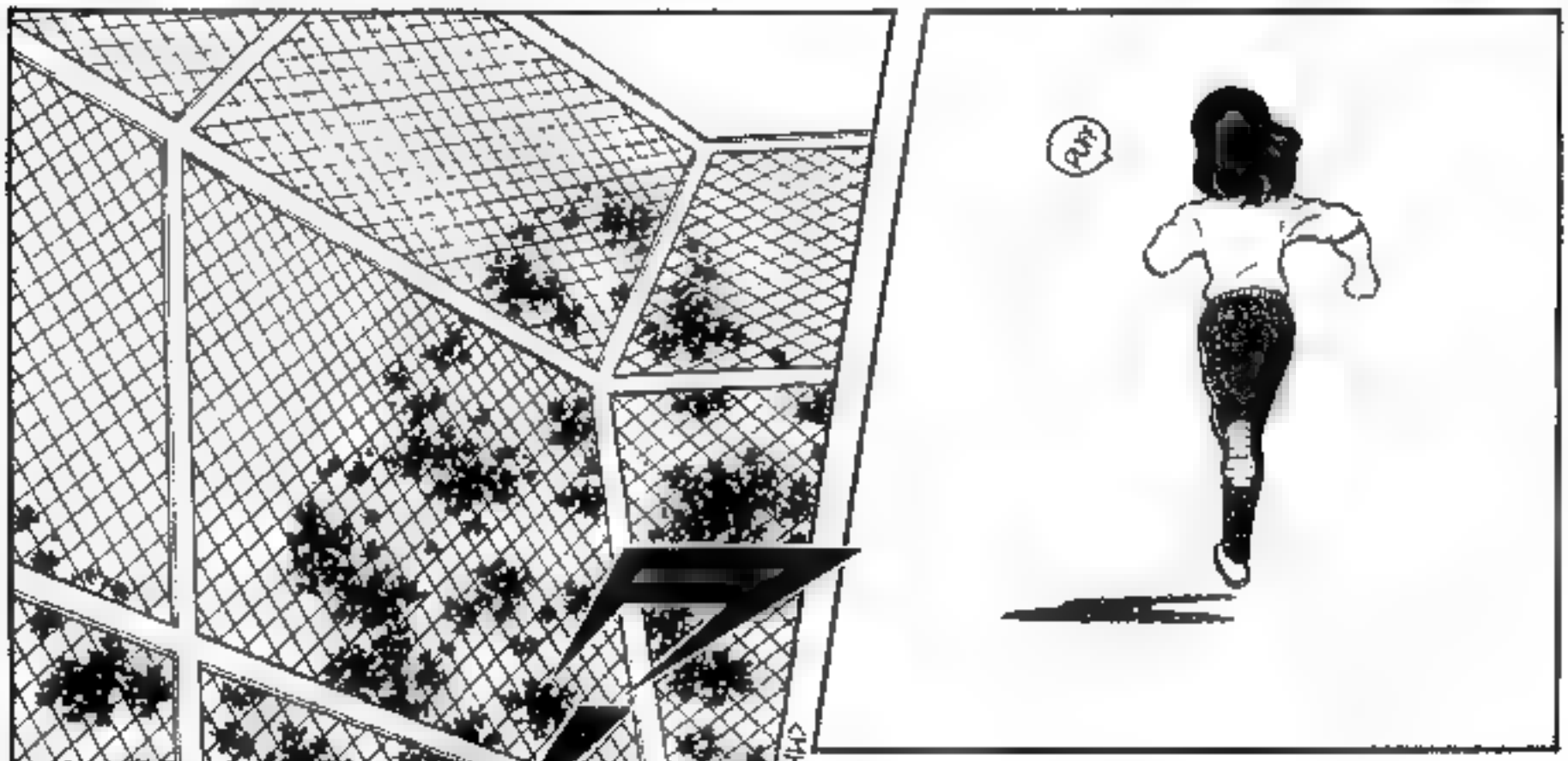
WHAP

OUT!

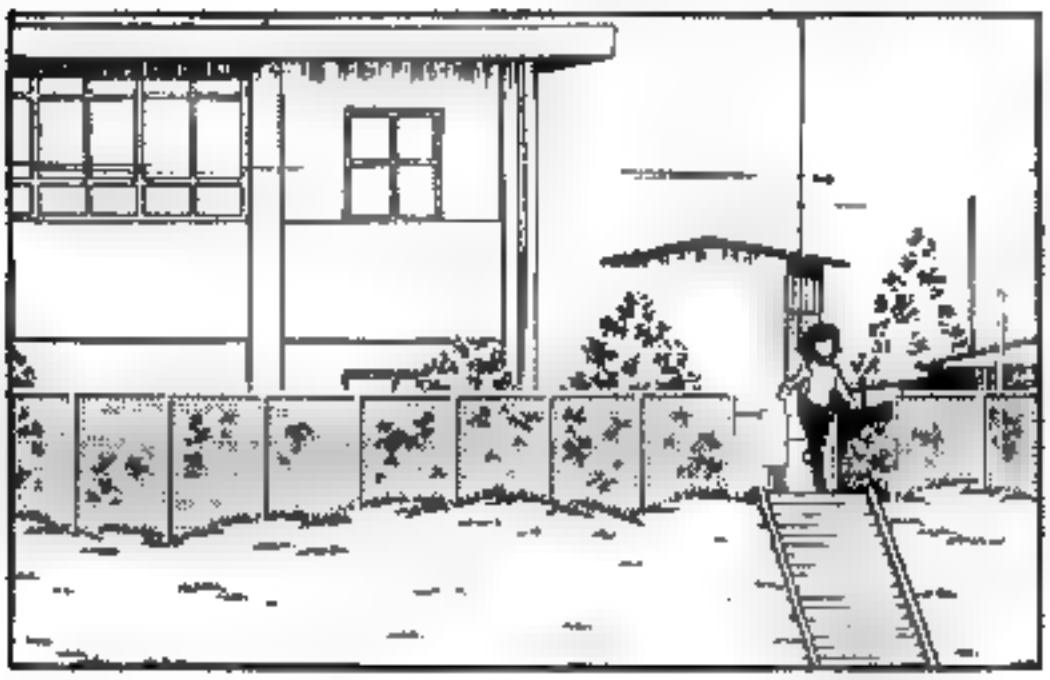
HA

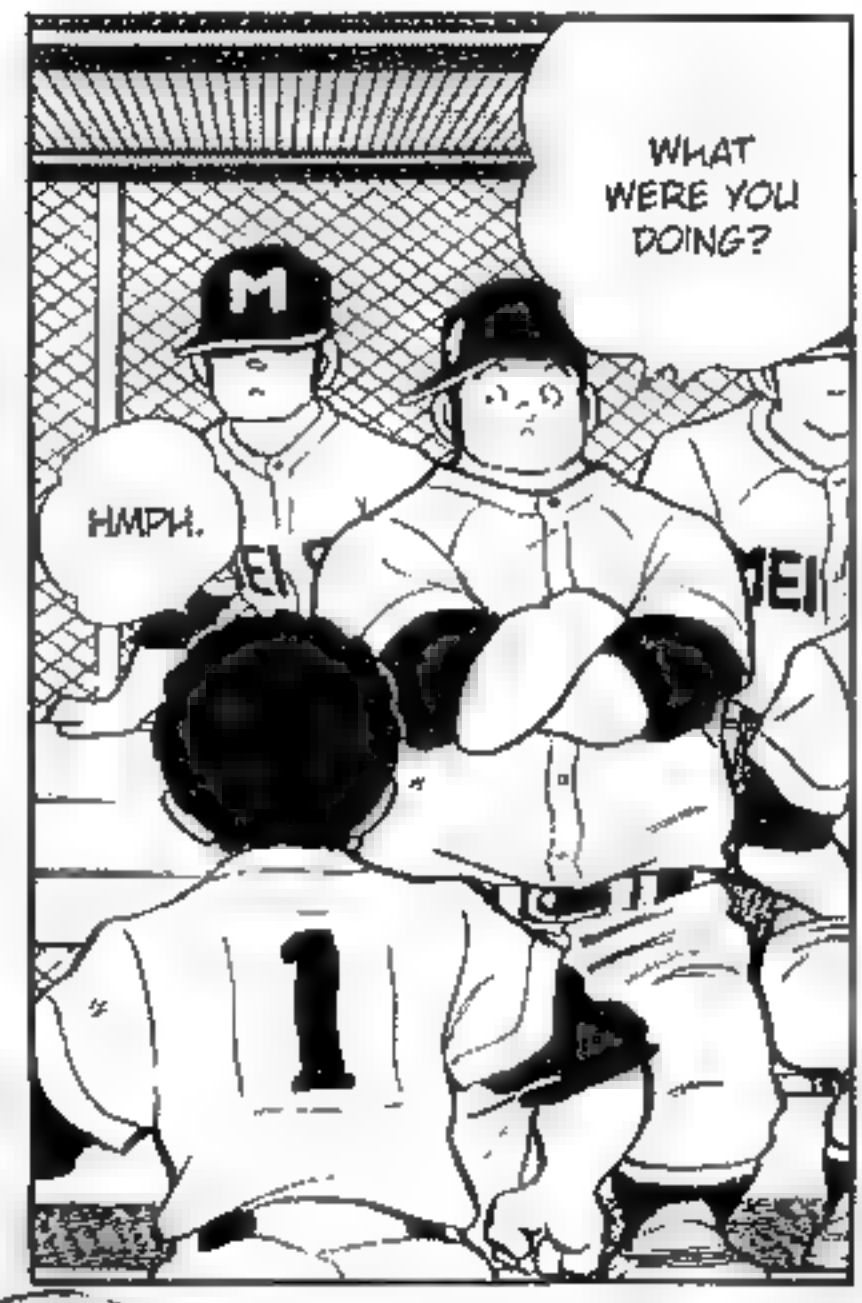
Walks or
Strikeouts


HELP!

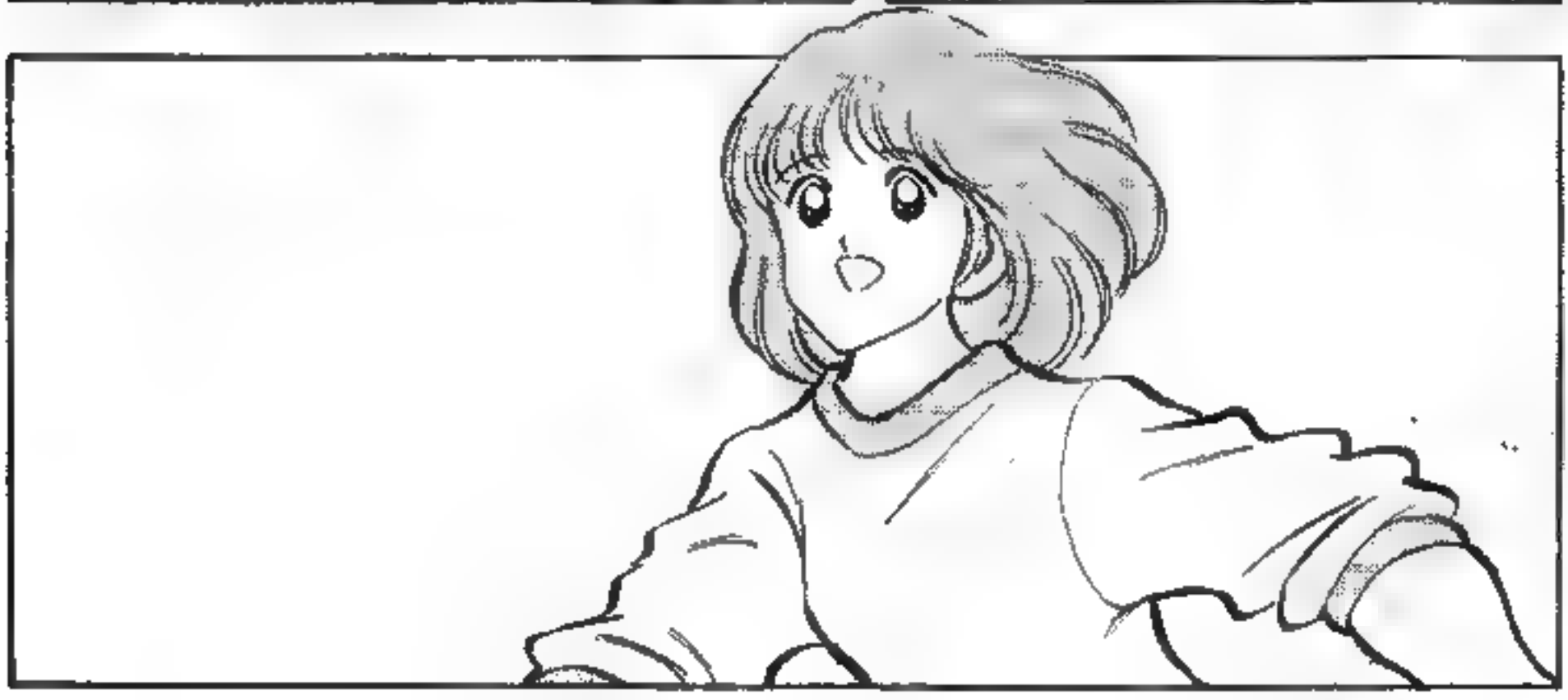

SFX: WAHHH!
Eh?

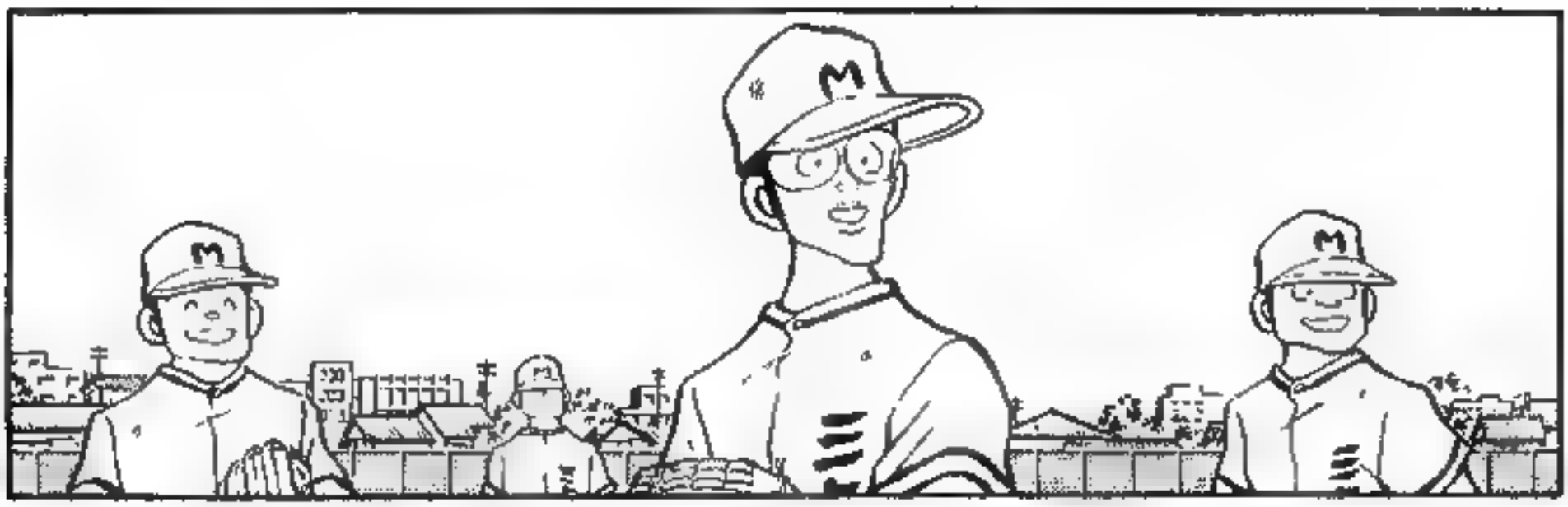
WAHHH




WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
HMPH.
1

AH, MINAMI-CHAN!



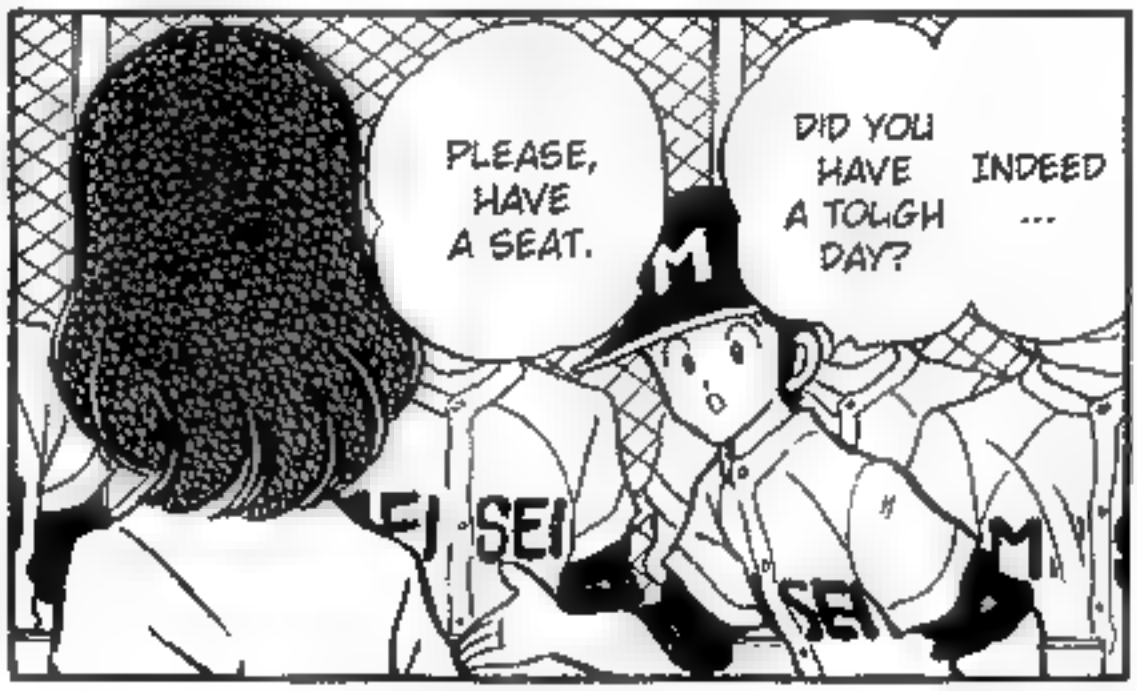


IS YOUR NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW FINISHED?

NO, NO.
I'M SORRY.
I'M LATE. .

AH, YES
HUH?

AH, I SEE.
A NEWS- PAPER INTERVIEW.
HMM ...


PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT.
DID YOU HAVE A TOUGH DAY?
INDEED ...
SEI
SEI
M

JUST ONE PIC...

THAT'S A NICE EXPRES-SION...

AH...

. . . .

SHALL I RUB YOUR SHOULDERS?

HOW BUSY YOU ARE.

WELL, WELL...

CLICK!

HESUGI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WE'RE ON THE FIELD!!

DON'T MIND HIM.

...JERK.

IF YOU CARE TO, PLEASE WATCH IT.

AH, IT'S A BORING GAME, BUT...

HOW IS IT GOING?

SCORE BOOK

WHA-A-AT? HOW MANY WALKS IS THIS?

BUT IN ANY CASE, HE'S HOLDING THEM TO NO RUNS THROUGH THREE INNINGS.

AH, THAT'S TRUE.

OF THE NINE OUTS, THERE'S ONLY ONE POP-UP TO THE CATCHER, AND THE REST ARE ALL STRIKEOUTS...

INSTEAD OF THAT, THE SURPRISING THING IS ...

THERE STILL HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE BALL HIT TO EITHER THE INFIELD OR THE OUTFIELD.

HUH?

WAHHH

BATTER OUT!

WHAP

SORTA.

IF HE GETS THREE STRIKE-OUTS, THEN THAT'S GOOD.

IF HE DOESN'T GIVE UP FOUR WALKS, THERE WON'T BE ANY RUNS.

THAT'S RIGHT.

WALKS ... OR STRIKE-OUTS...

AND THERE MAY BE EXTRA INNINGS, TOO.

A BASE-BALL GAME IS NINE INNINGS.

DUNNO ...

SEEMS THINGS COULD GO EITHER WAY, HM.

TIME.

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

IF YOU THROW IT RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE, YOU'LL GET BEAT!!

THEY'VE HAD TIME TO GET USED TO YOUR SPEED, TO SOME EXTENT.

THE NEXT ONE'S THE TOP OF THE R LINEUP, BATTING FOR THE THIRD TIME AROUND!!

DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY.

YOUR USUAL EXTENSION OF THE BALL IS GONE.

YOU'RE STRAINING!! YOUR SHOULDER STRENGTH IS GONE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'VE GOT BACK-TO-BACK STRIKE-OUTS.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

YOU DON'T HAVE THE CONTROL TO BE AIMING AT SPOTS.

HOW-EVER...

GRR.

BECAUSE MINAMI-CHAN'S WATCHING, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL LOOK GOOD.

ANYWAY ...

PLAY...

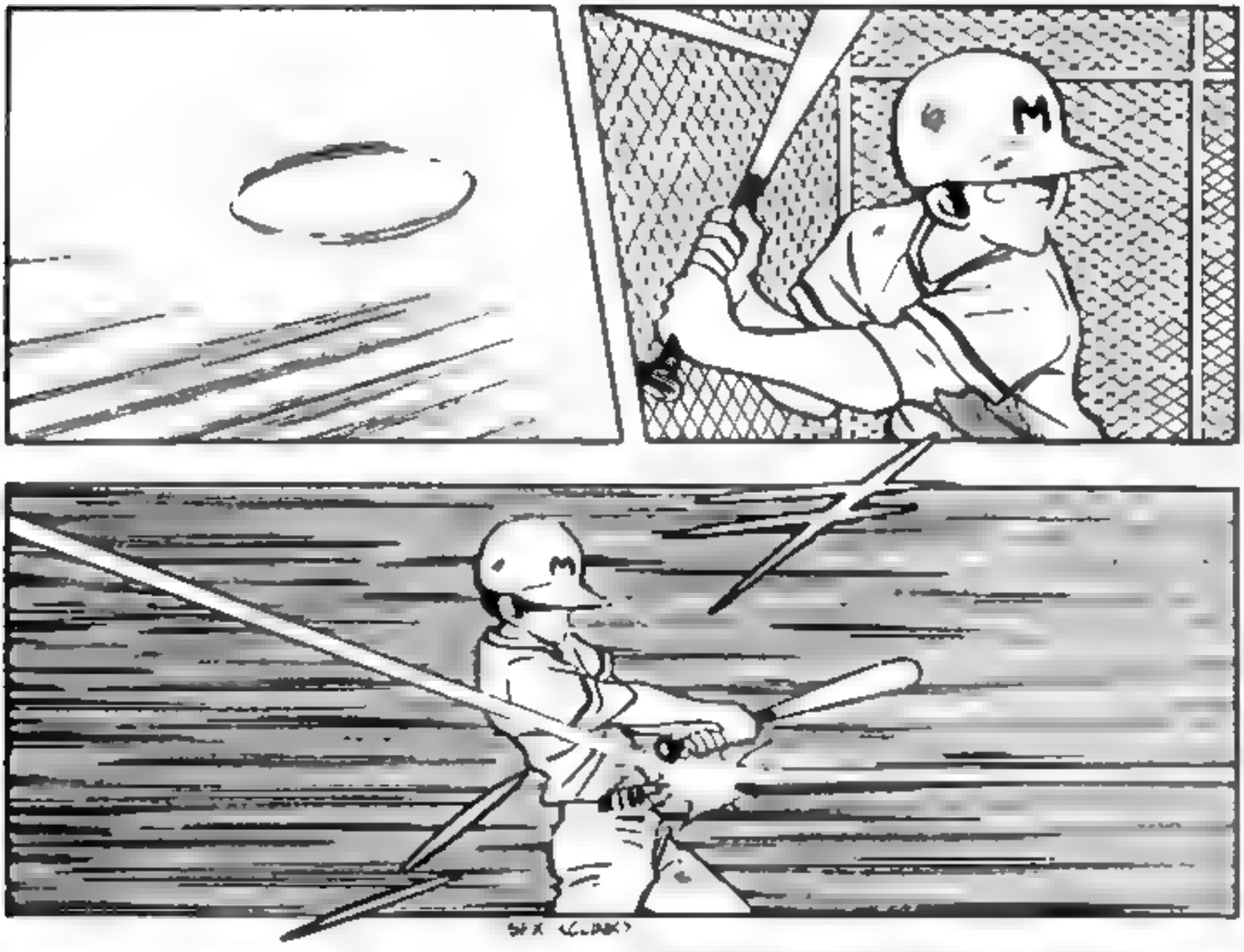
BALL!

RELAX, RELAX.

SHLID-DLIP

YOU JERK.

WHAP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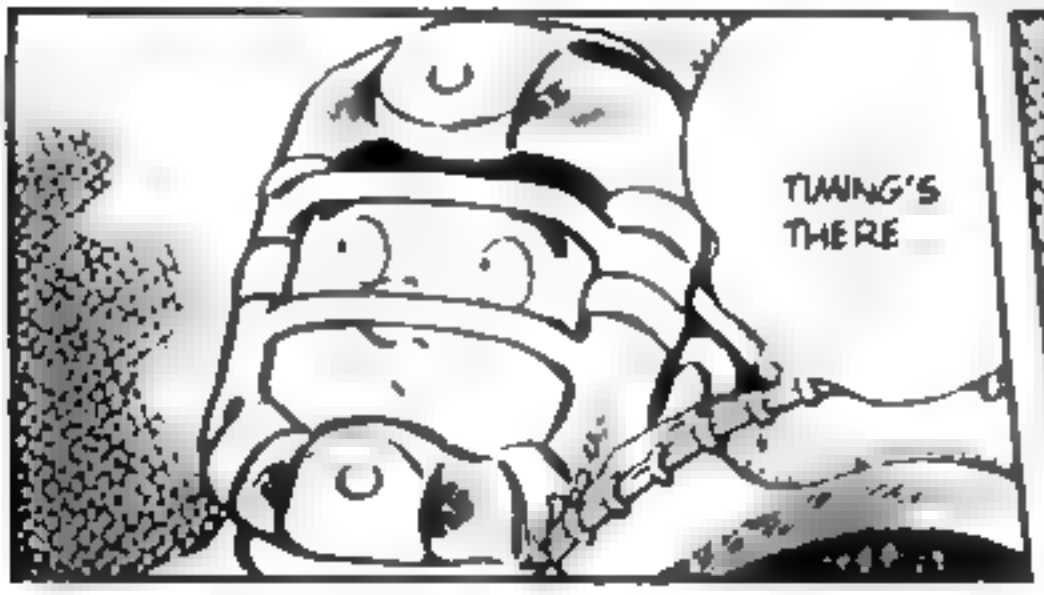
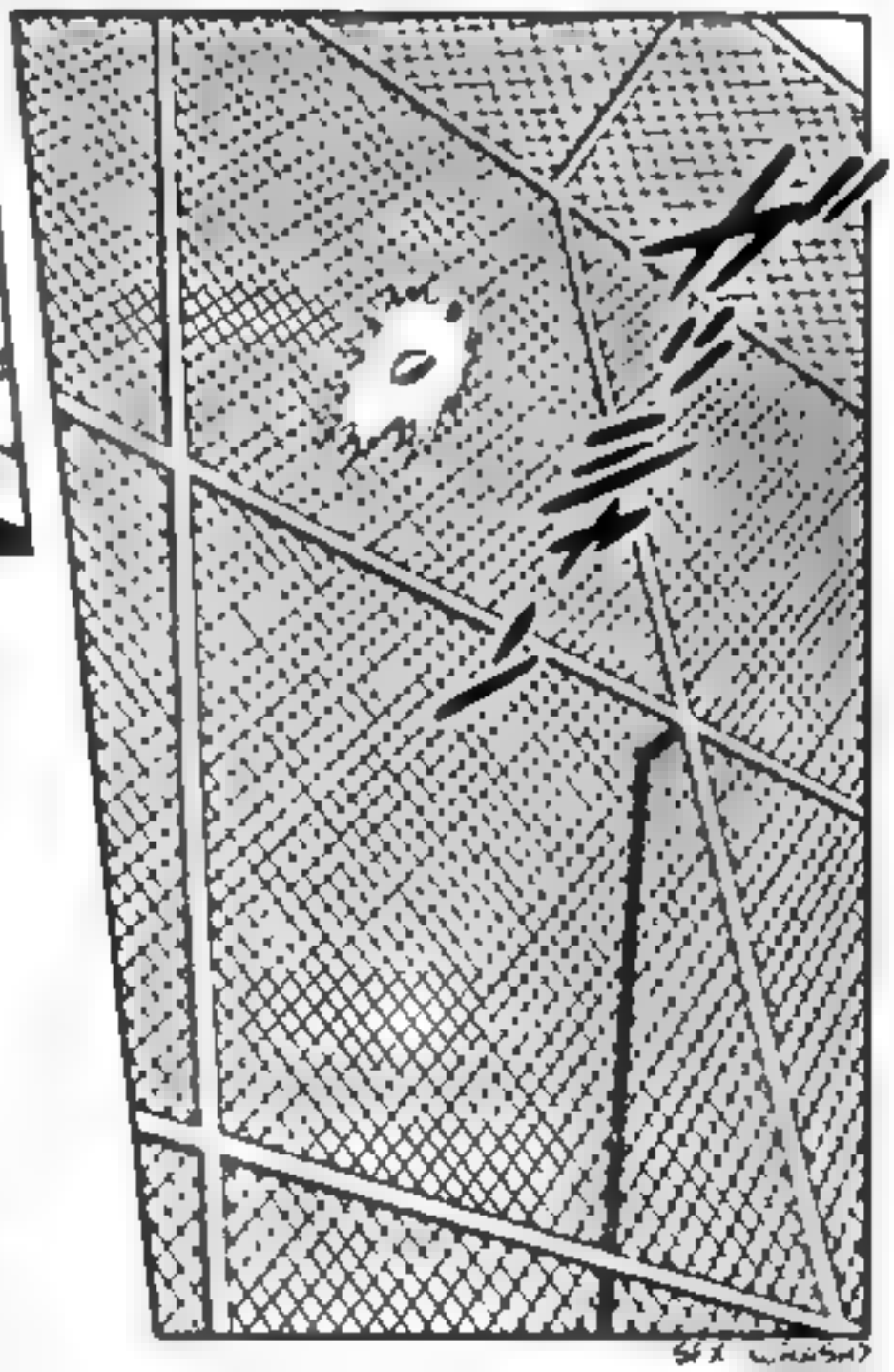
M


TIMING'S
THERE



FOUL!

THINK

ALL RIGHT.

HMPH.

WHAT'S ALL RIGHT?

DON'T TAKE ME LIGHTLY!

A TEAM THAT LOST TO KAZUYA IN A CALLED GAME AT THE SUMMER ELIMINATIONS...

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I'M UESUGI KAZUYA'S OLDER BROTHER!

WAH.

OH.

HMMM.

PLEASE REMEMBER ME.

ME!

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

STRUCK OUT THE SIDE...

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
M.T.	0	0	0	0					
MEISEI	0	0	0						

SPLENDID, SPLENDID.

THAT'S USING YOUR HEAD AND PITCHING.

SEI

RAH RAH!

NICE PITCHING

<WEEKLY YOUNG SUNDAY ALL-EXCLUSIVE COLOR NUDES>

OW!

TWACK

4

APPEARING IN A PERVERTED MAGAZINE LIKE THIS, RIGHT UP THERE WITH SOME NUDE PICS ..

IDIOT.

WHAT!?

YESTERDAY, HE GATHERED UP TEN COPIES AND BOUGHT THEM.

YUP, FATHER DID.

HE KNOWS ALREADY.

IF MASTER FINDS OUT, HE'LL BE SURPRISED AND DROP TO HIS KNEES!!

<"MASTER" APPLIES TO MINAMI'S FATHER, WHO'S THE MASTER AT THEIR COFFEE SHOP >

WHENEVER CUSTOMERS COME TO THE COFFEE SHOP, HE SHOWS IT.

EVEN IF HE GETS RID OF TEN COPIES, THE PROBABILITY THAT THIS'LL ATTRACT PUBLIC ATTENTION IS...

AS TO THAT...

WELL, THE THING IS...

DOES HE UNDERSTAND THROUGH WHAT SORT OF EYES THE MEN WHO BOUGHT THIS MAGAZINE ARE LOOKING AT YOUR PICTURE!?

...

IT WAS SOLD AT BOOKSTORES WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!

IT TURNED INTO AN ARTICLE WITHOUT MY PERMIS-SION...

IT'S THINGS I DIDN'T KNOW . MY PICTURES WERE TAKEN... WITHOUT MY PERMISSION...

I CAN'T HELP IT, CAN I!?

SO WHAT SHOULD I DO!?

I SEE...

HMM...

WEEKLY

ME

CLINK

WAHHH

SFX. <WAHHH WAHHH>

PICTURES ARE PICTURES...

HM?

MINAMI IS MINAMI!

It's All Right

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SFX. <CLA-A-A-NK>

WAH

WAH

WAH

WAH

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
M.T.	0	0	0	0				
Meisei	0	0	0	3				

HUMPH.

HUMPH.

HUMPH.

CLINK

THE GAME WAS DECIDED WITH THE FIRST RUN.

HUMPH! THOSE ARE UNNECESSARY RUNS!

NOW, IF YOU DO ANYTHING LIKE LOSE, HE'LL NAG YOU ABOUT IT.

WAH

OUT!

HEY, HEY.

SHOOT FOR THE NO-HIT SHUTOUT!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

TATCHAN IS TOUGH UNDER PRESSURE.

FIRST SHUTOUT!

FIRST WIN!

WE STRUCK FIRST!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!

HE'S THE TYPE THAT WON'T DO ANYTHING IF HE ISN'T CORNERED ...

MORE ACCURATELY ...

IF DRIVEN INTO A CORNER, HE'S THE TYPE THAT PUTS OUT THE EFFORT TO THE LEVEL THAT HE'S BEEN CORNERED.

HRAHH!

GRRRR!

WAH

5

5

NO OUTS, BASES LOADED.

SFX: <WHAP>

HE'S CORNERED QUITE OFTEN, HM.

.....

HE SAW THROUGH THE SQUEEZE PLAY, AND DELIBERATELY AVOIDED IT..

WHAT A GUY, HM.

OUT!

WHAP

EH?

click

O-WAH!

OUT!

THAT WAS JUST A FLUKE

NOPE.

THAT PITCH WAS ...!?

N- NO WAY...

YOU GOT THROUGH THIS INNING WITHOUT THROWING A SINGLE STRIKE.

YOU JERK.

WAH

OH WELL

THAT'S OKAY

WHAT WAS!?

HOW WONDER-FUL

HARADA
...

ボクシング部

SFX: <BOXING TEAM>

UESUGI.

I'M GOING TO CHECK OUT THE SITUATION FOR A BIT.

CHECK WHAT?

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM?

A GUY WHO'S ONLY WORTH ONE PICTURE CARD...

WAH

IT'S TRUE!

I THOUGHT THAT PUTTING HIM THERE WAS FOR HIS OWN GOOD.

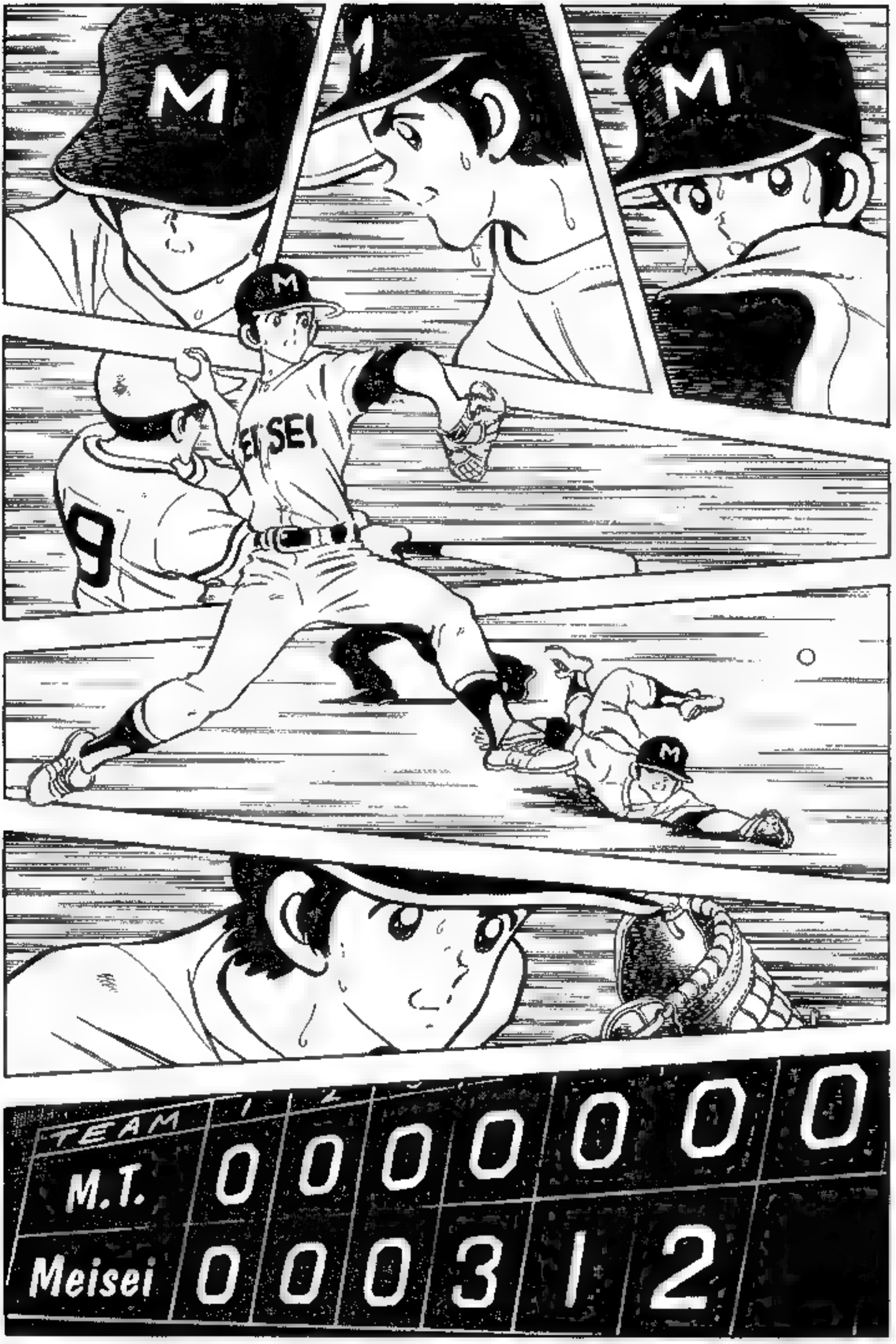
THE PICTURE CARD WAS JUST AN EXCUSE TO TURN HIM OVER TO THE BASEBALL TEAM...

DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT.

...

WAH

WAH



TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
M.T.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meisei	0	0	0	3	1	2	

I THINK IT'S A MIRACLE YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ANY RUNS SO FAR...

YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH SHAME, DO YOU?

9 WALKS, 3 HIT BATTERS.

ANOTHER TWO INNINGS... HUH?

YOU DON'T RUN ENOUGH, HM.

YOU'RE NOT KEEPING YOURSELF IN PROPER SHAPE.

IS THERE NOTHING ELSE TO SHOOT FOR THE REST OF THE WAY BUT A SHUTOUT?

SHIT... I GAVE UP A HIT.

HUFF

WAH

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YOU'RE WOBBLING.

PUFF

HUFF

RIGHT ...

1

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWING THE BAT!!

DON'T WASTE YOUR ENERGY.

UESUGI.

5

STAGGER

RIGHT.

PUFF

OOO-
WAH!

SFX: <CLIN-N-NK>

I DIDN'T MEAN TO HIT IT.

OH GOD ...

WHAT? WHAT?

PUFF

HEY, HEY.

HUFF

HUFF

PUFF

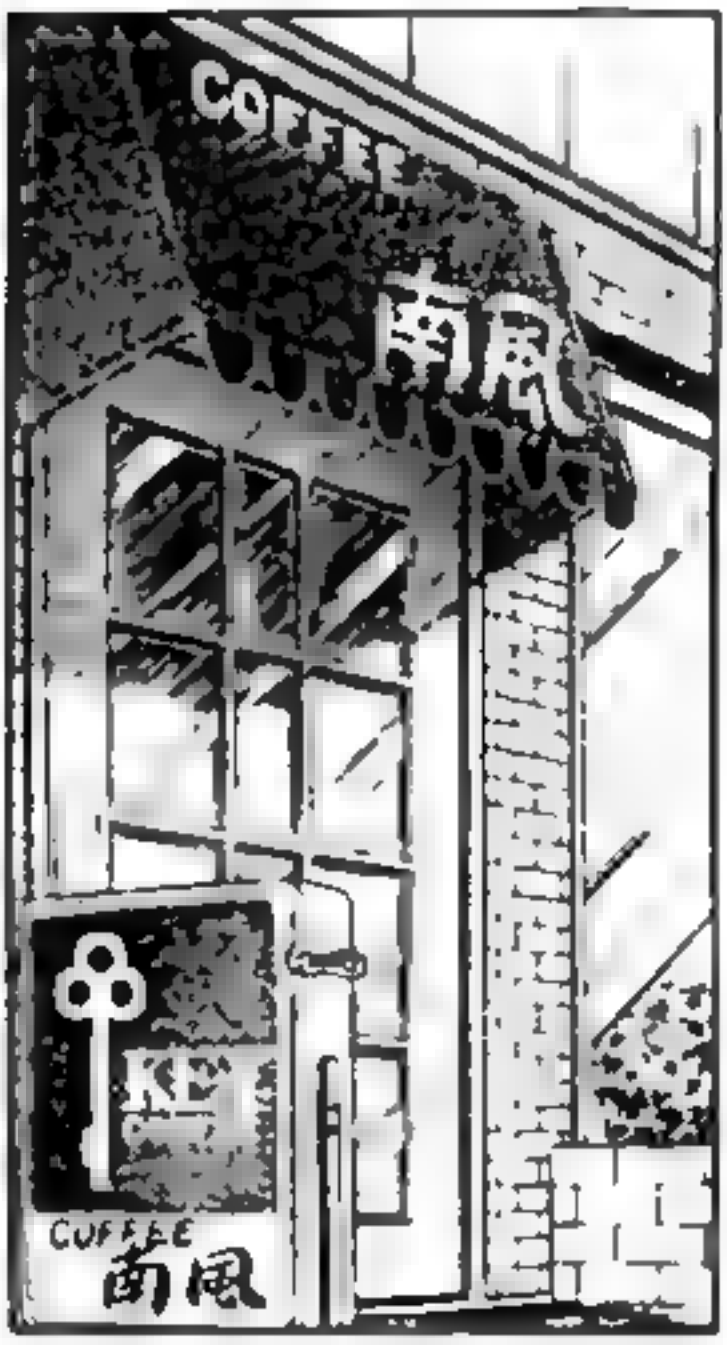
PUFF

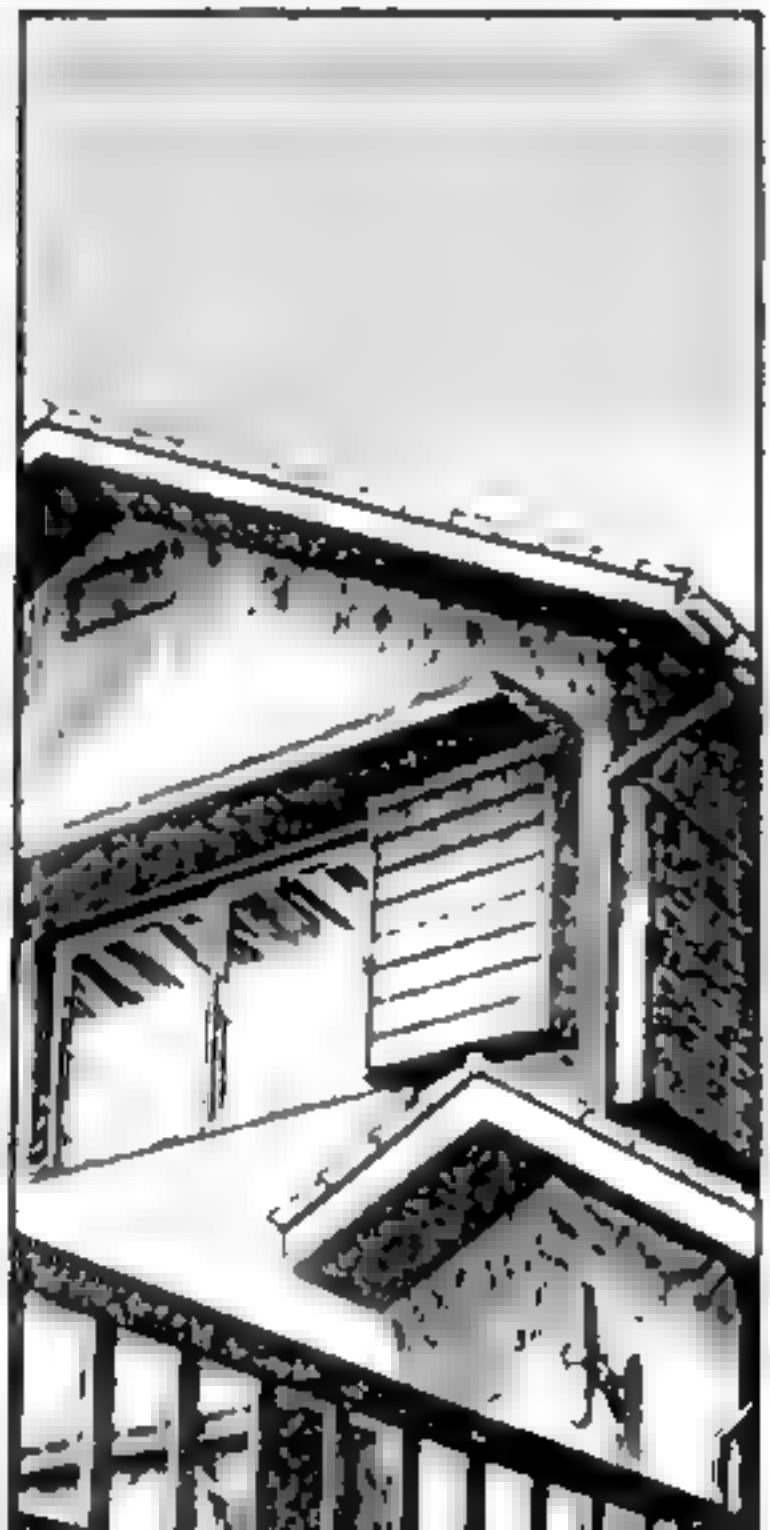
HUFF

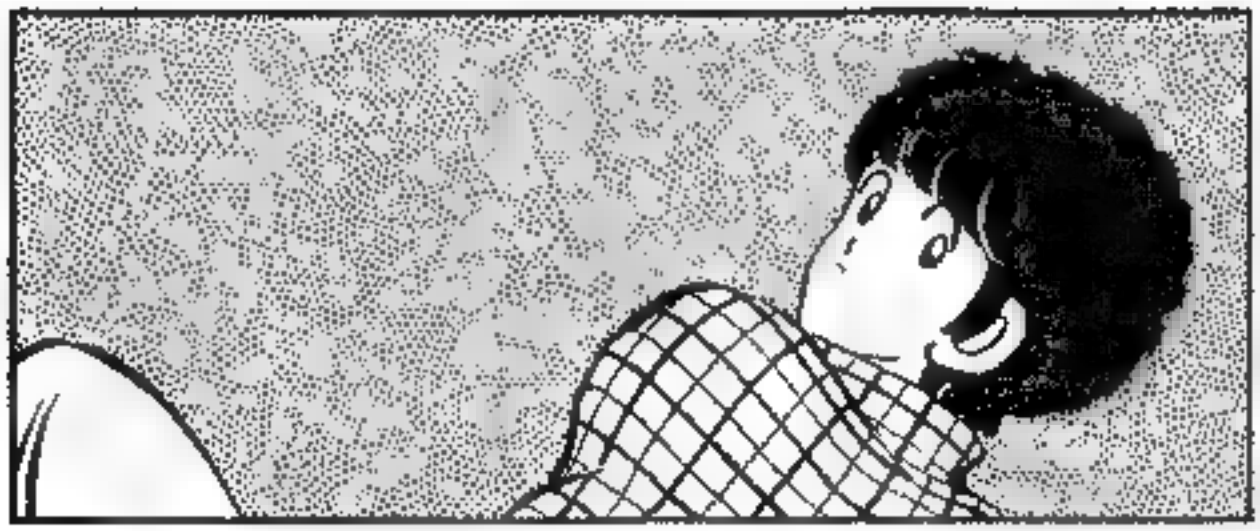
SAFE!

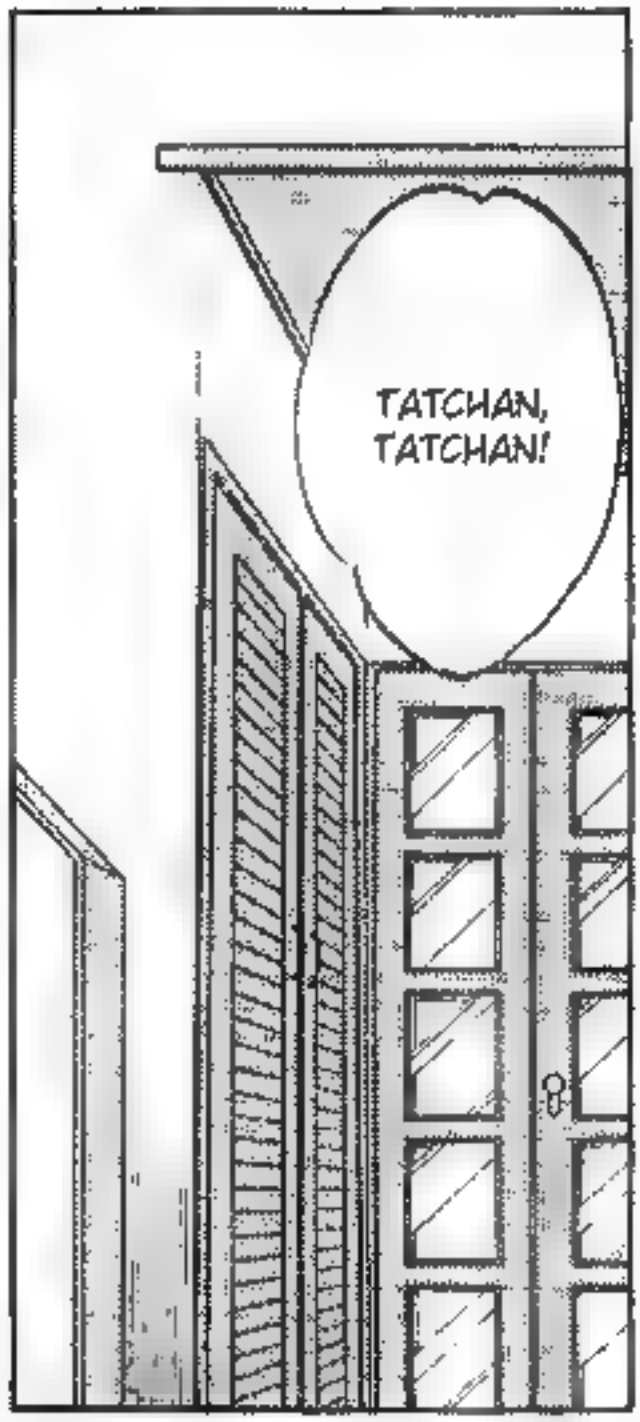
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
Ohh...
PUFF
Move...
I can't stand!!
I'm losing consciousness...
Ohh?
.....
GAME CALLED, SEVEN INNINGS ...
TO MEISEI GAKUEN!
Pitch ...
Pi...
Regrets, regrets.
Another two innings ...

NOTE: TATSUYA'S RUN MUST'VE MADE THE SCORE 10-0 AND SO MEISEI WON IMMEDIATELY BY THE "10-RUN RULE."?


COFFEE
南風
COFFEE
南風





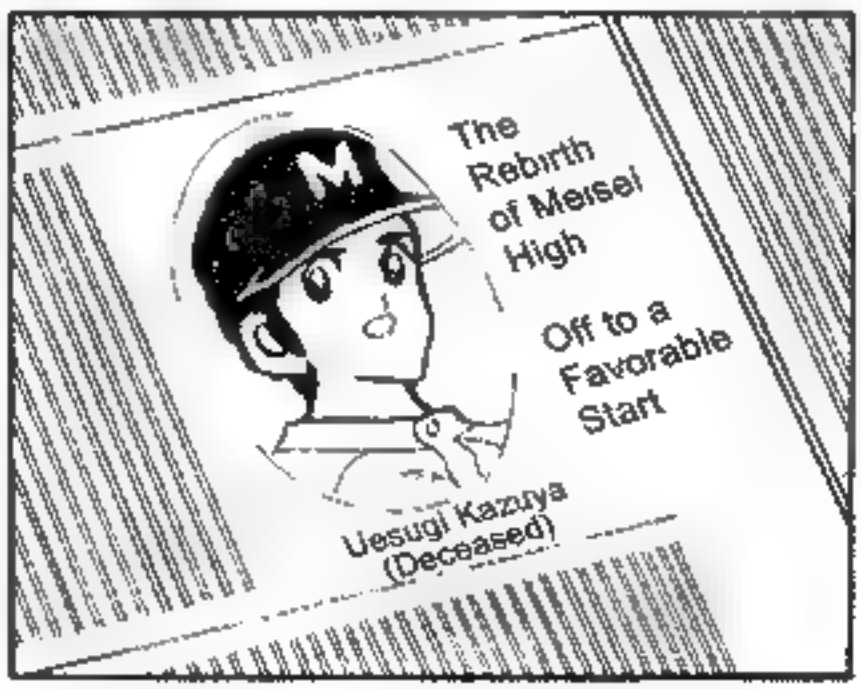

TATCHAN, TATCHAN!

OW, OW...
YESTER-DAY'S GAME...
IT'S BEEN REPORTED, TATCHAN!
HEY, LOOK!

IT'S OKAY.
BESIDES, YOU'RE TWINS.

WHY DID THEY PRINT KAZUYA'S PICTURE ...?
MY PICTURE'S NOT HERE.

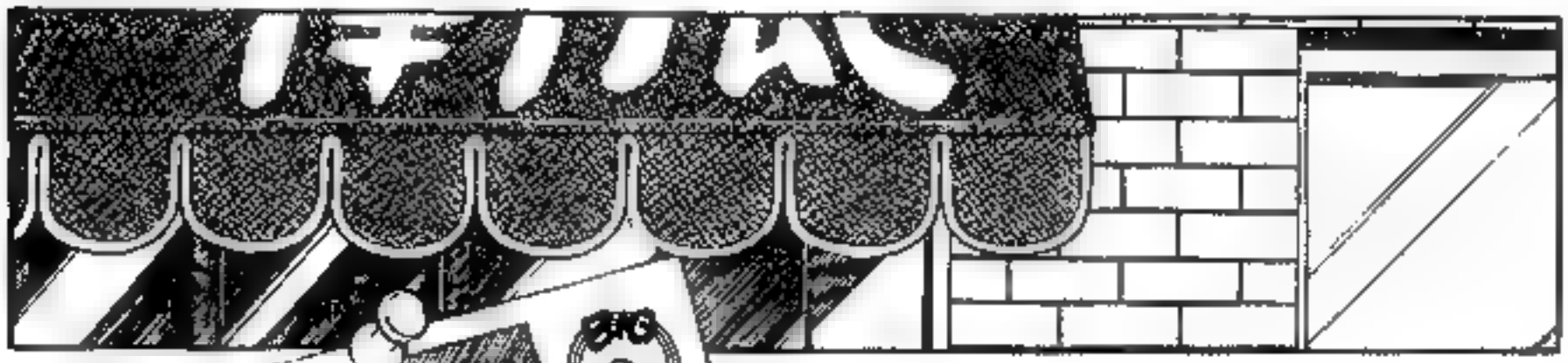
HERE, HERE.
WHERE?


The Rebirth of Meisei High
Off to a Favorable Start
Uesugi Kazuya (Deceased)

WHAT'■ THIS!?
THE "TA" CHARACTER IN "TATSUYA" IS MISSING, TOO!
THE OLDER BROTHER OF UESUGI KAZUYA, WHO HAD BETTER CONTROL...
THE OLDER BROTHER OF GIFTED PITCHER UESUGI KAZUYA...

HM.
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

FLUTTER



BIG
Great People
High School Rhythmic Gym-nastics Meet
A Star to Look Out For!
Asakura Minami
(Meisei High, First-Year)

Admire As
I Please

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EMP
IN T
WAS
BAS

POOPIE

AH...

KLANG

BOW WOW

THE ONE THING THE BIG BROTHER OF LIESLIGI KAZUYA LACKS IS PITCHING CONTROL.

YES.

TATSUYA!
TATSUYA!

YO.

UESUGI-
KUN!

HM?

HEY,
TATSUYA!

STOP
IT!

BOW

HAA

HAA

YOSHIDA

YOSHIDA

I'M ON THE WAY FROM SHOPPING ...

THAT'S OKAY.

I'LL MAKE TEA.

COME DROP IN.

GRR...

HMMMM.

AH...

MOTHER!

TAKESHI!

'KAY?

PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT...

STAY FOR JUST A BIT.

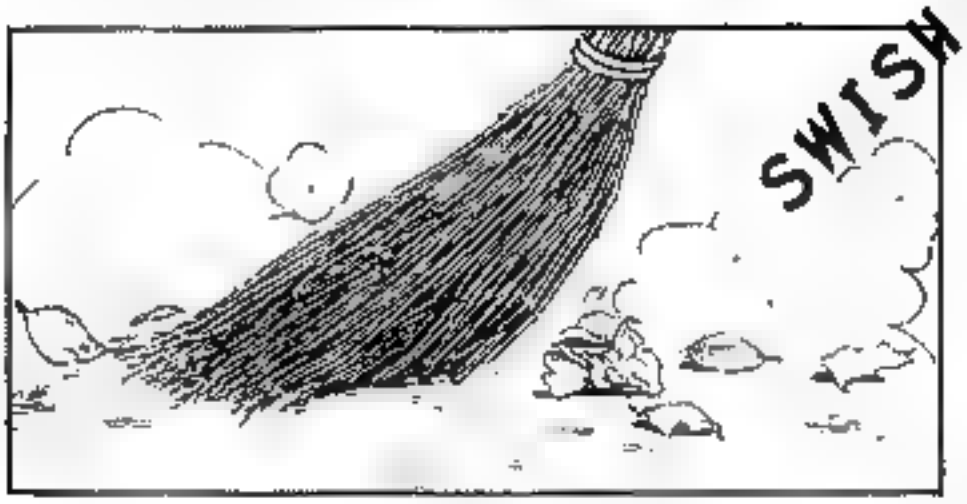
BOW

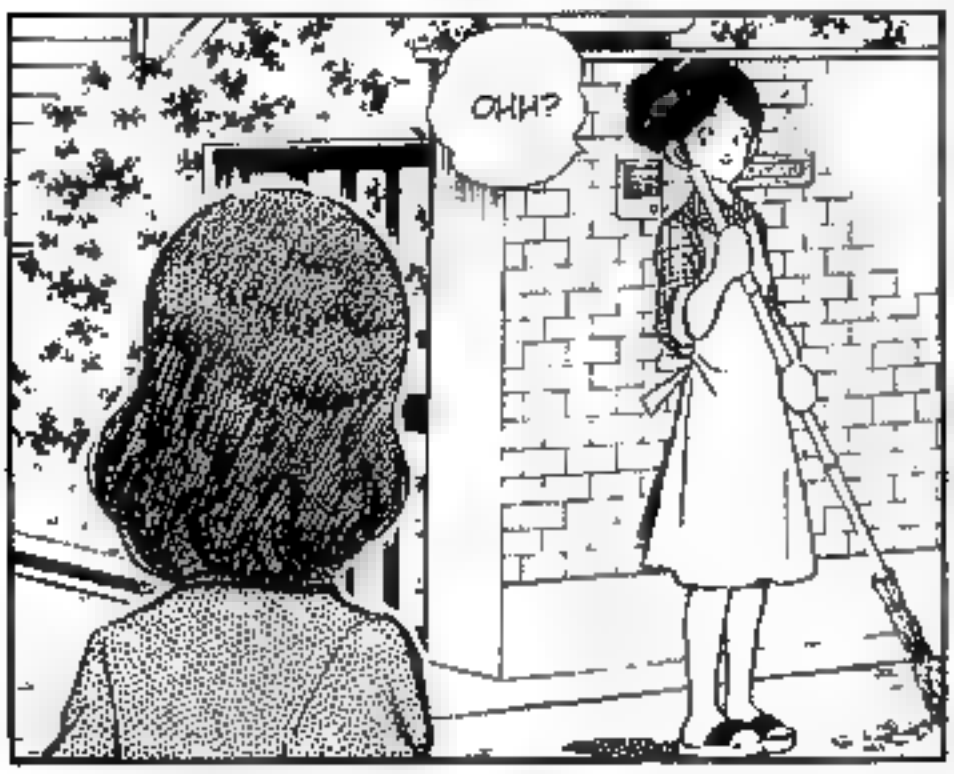
OHH.

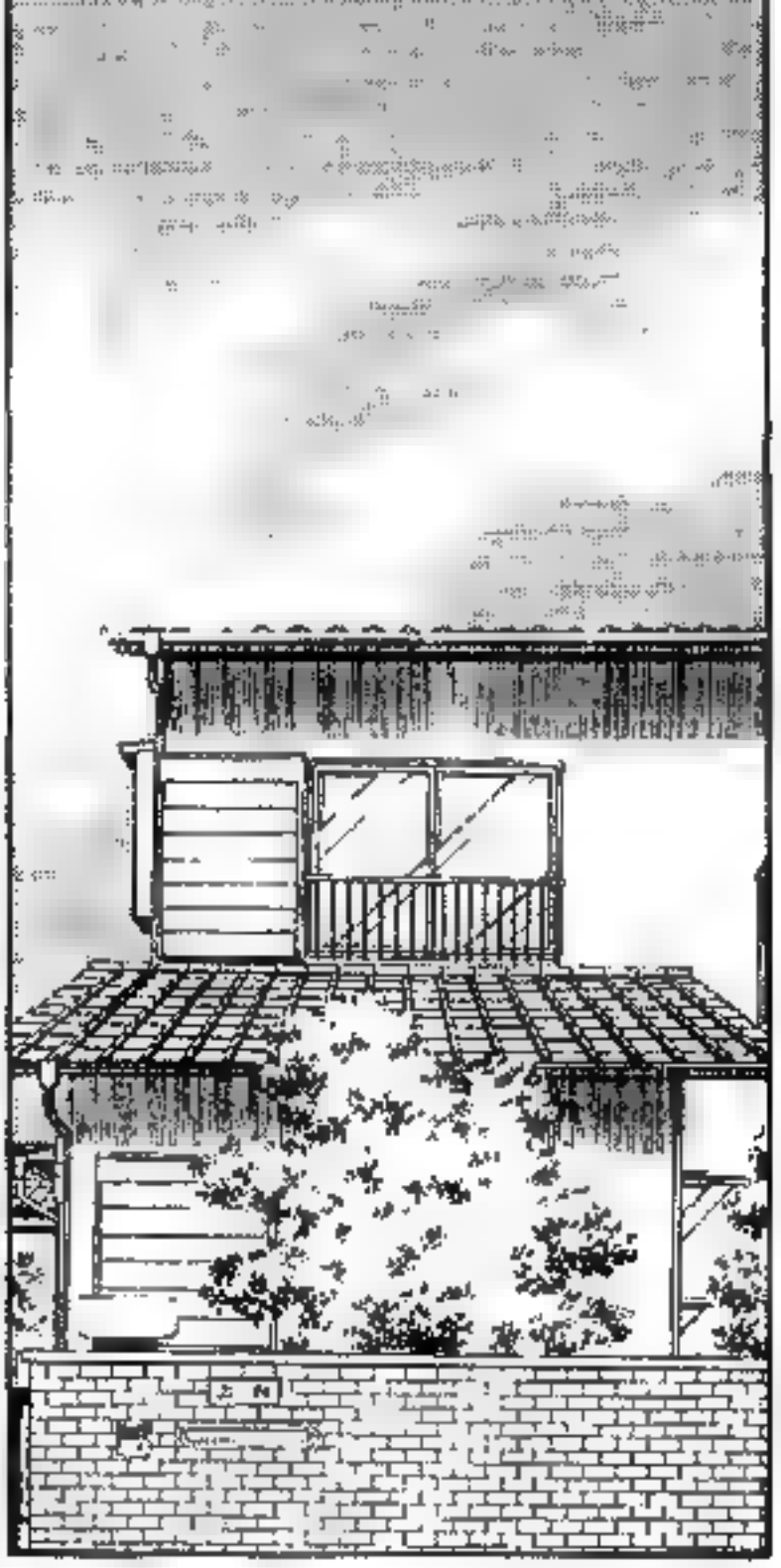
YES.

UESUGI-SAN!?

VROOOM


SWISH


OHH?

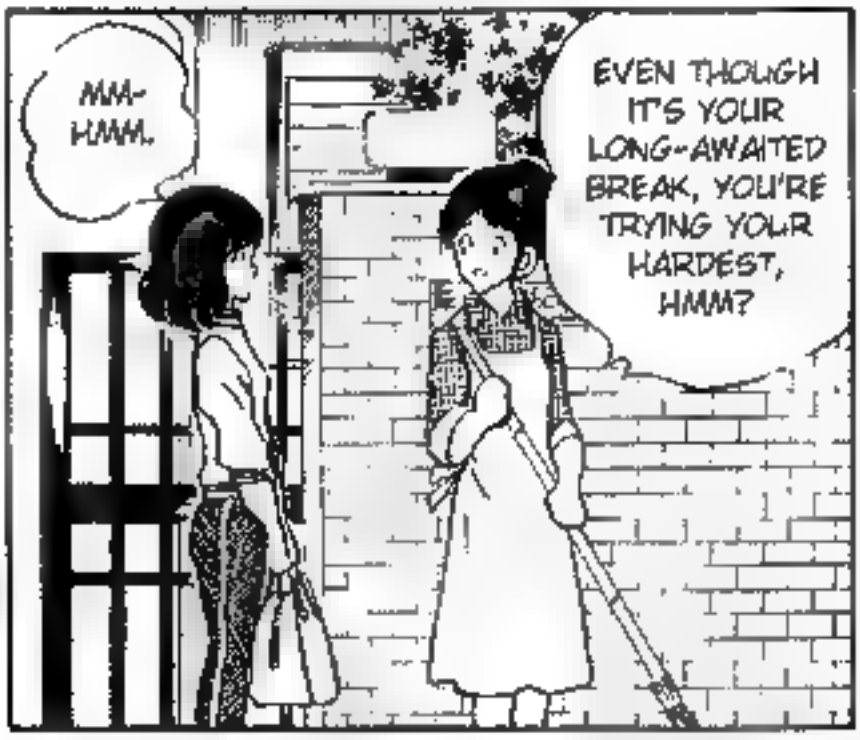


SIGN: <HESUGI>

UH HUH.
YOU HAVE RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS PRACTICE?
DRESSED LIKE THAT...

IT'S YOU MINAMI-CHAN, SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL.

I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS ANY WAY I'D END UP APPEARING IN THE CITY-WIDE TOURNAMENT.


MM-HMM.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S YOUR LONG-AWAITED BREAK, YOU'RE TRYING YOUR HARDEST, HMM?

EH HEH.

YOU'RE THE VERY IMAGE OF HER.

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL AND HAVE A NICE FIGURE...

YOUR LATE MOTHER

WAS A TERRIFIC ATHLETE WHEN SHE WAS IN SCHOOL TOO.

AND THAT WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN, YOU ALSO PUT YOUR HEART AND SOUL INTO IT, HM?

ON TOP OF THAT THERE'S THE FACT YOU WERE ALSO ASKED TO DO IT AND WERE RELUCTANT

THEN, PUNCH, I'M OFF.

HE'S LATE, HM?

YEAH I ASKED HIM TO DO THE SHOPPING, BUT ..

MM.

WHERE'S TATCHAN?

ARF

ARF

ARF

I WILL!

TAKE CARE, 'KAY?

GROWL...

YOSHIDA

WHAT'S THIS?

EISEI

I GOT WHAT THE PHOTOCLUB TOOK AT THE GAME THE OTHER DAY BLOWN UP.

MOTHER!

EVER SINCE HE ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL ...

TAKESHI IS A TREMENDOUS FAN OF YOURS, UESUGI-SAN.

THERE'S NO MISTAKE.

NO, IT'S YOU, TATSUYA-SAN.

CLATTER

AREN'T YOU MISTAKING ME FOR KAZUYA?

AND SO I DON'T FEEL LIKE THIS IS OUR FIRST MEETING AT ALL.

ENOUGH ALREADY, MOTHER.

GO ON DOWN-STAIRS.

MOTHER!

ALL HE TALKS ABOUT IS "UESUGI-KUN DID THIS AND UESUGI-KUN DID THAT."

EVERY DAY, WHEN HE COMES HOME FROM SCHOOL ...

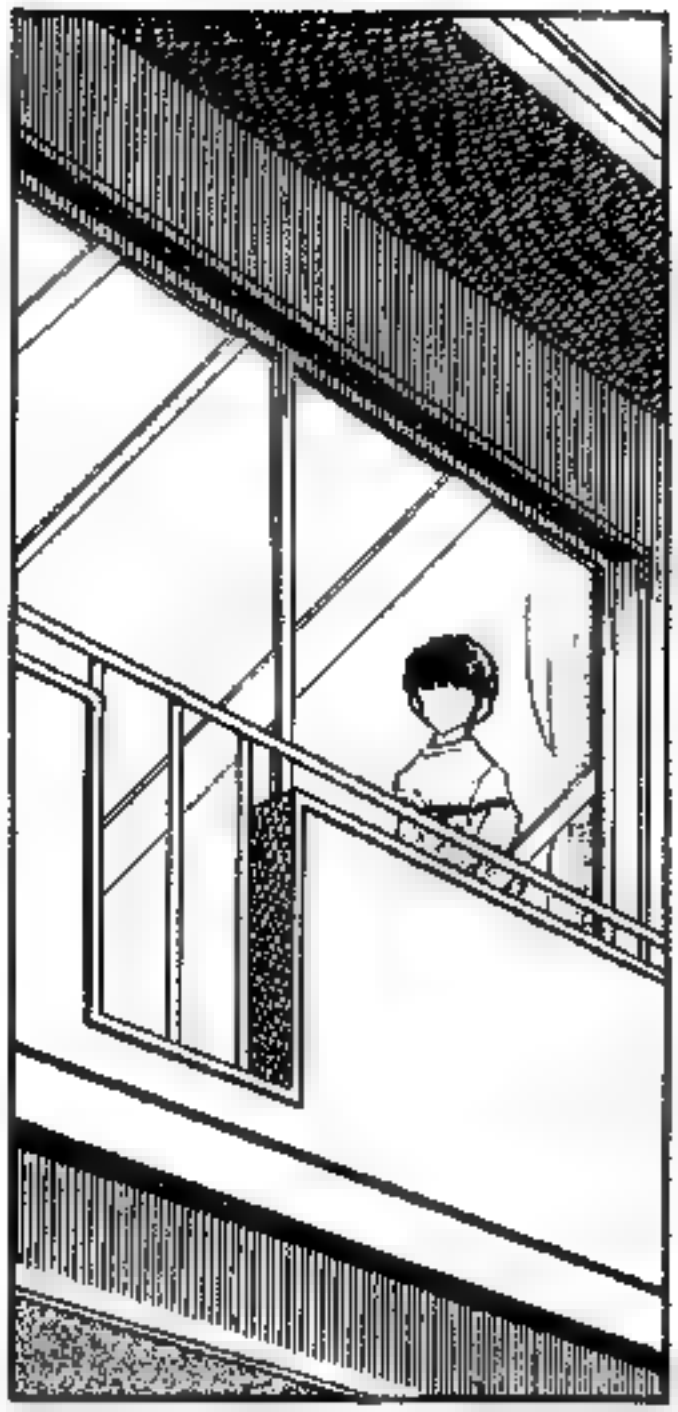
EXCUSE ME.

YES, YES.

SLAM

THEN, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, ALL RIGHT, UESUGI-SAN?

ooo



I'LL SAY IT RIGHT NOW ...

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THAT SORT OF THING...

THERE'S NO WE RD MEANING TO IT...
I'M ONLY ADMIRING YOU, AS I PLEASE!

YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!
AH! NOT THAT!

AH.
PLEASE HAVE SOME TEA.

ADMIRE ...?

EVEN IF YOU HAVE A TERRIFICALLY TALENTED YOUNGER TWIN BROTHER ...

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU'RE COMPARED TO THOSE AROUND YOU...

YOU TAKE THINGS COMPLETELY AT YOUR OWN PACE.

SUGAR?

NOPE.

BEING POPULAR JUST AMONG THE GUYS.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE BEING TREATED KINDLY BY A WONDERFUL GIRL LIKE ASAKURA-SAN

OW

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THANKS FOR THE TREAT.

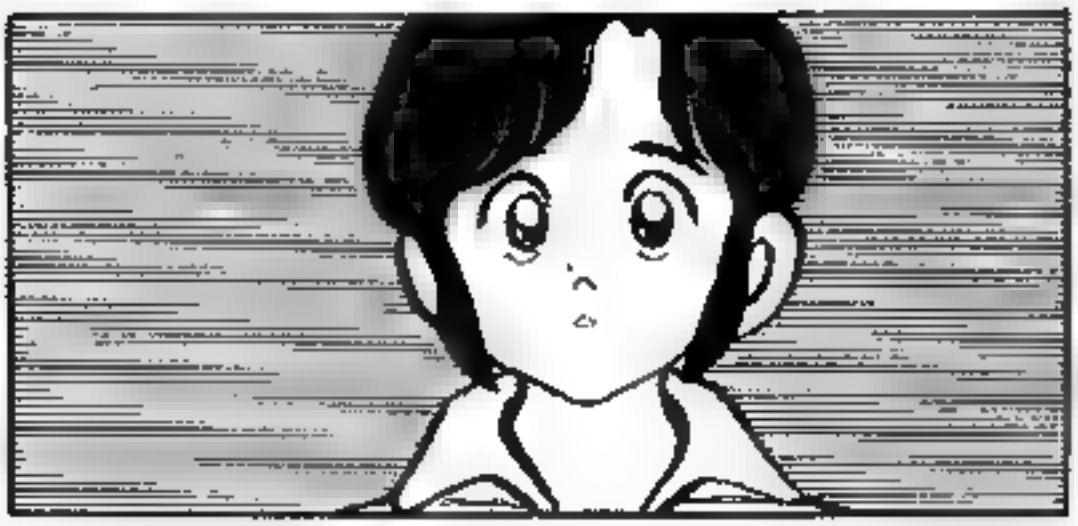
I FEEL IT'S LIKE YOU'RE DOING SOME-THING...

THAT AN ORDINARY PERSON CAN'T DO, RIGHT, JESUGI-KUN.

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO STAND OUT, YOU'VE ATTRACTED PEOPLE'S ATTENTION, TOO...

JESUGI-KUN..

BYE.



IF IT'S SOMETHING THAT I WANT TO DO, I DO IT FOR MYSELF.

IT'S NOT THAT I LIKE HAVING EX-PECTATIONS RIDING ON ME...

UH-HUH.

AH...

OKAY IF I BORROW THIS?

ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF

MINAMI, MINAMI.

ARF?

.....

chew chew

SPLISH

SPLASH!

GOTTA OPEN THE WINDOW!

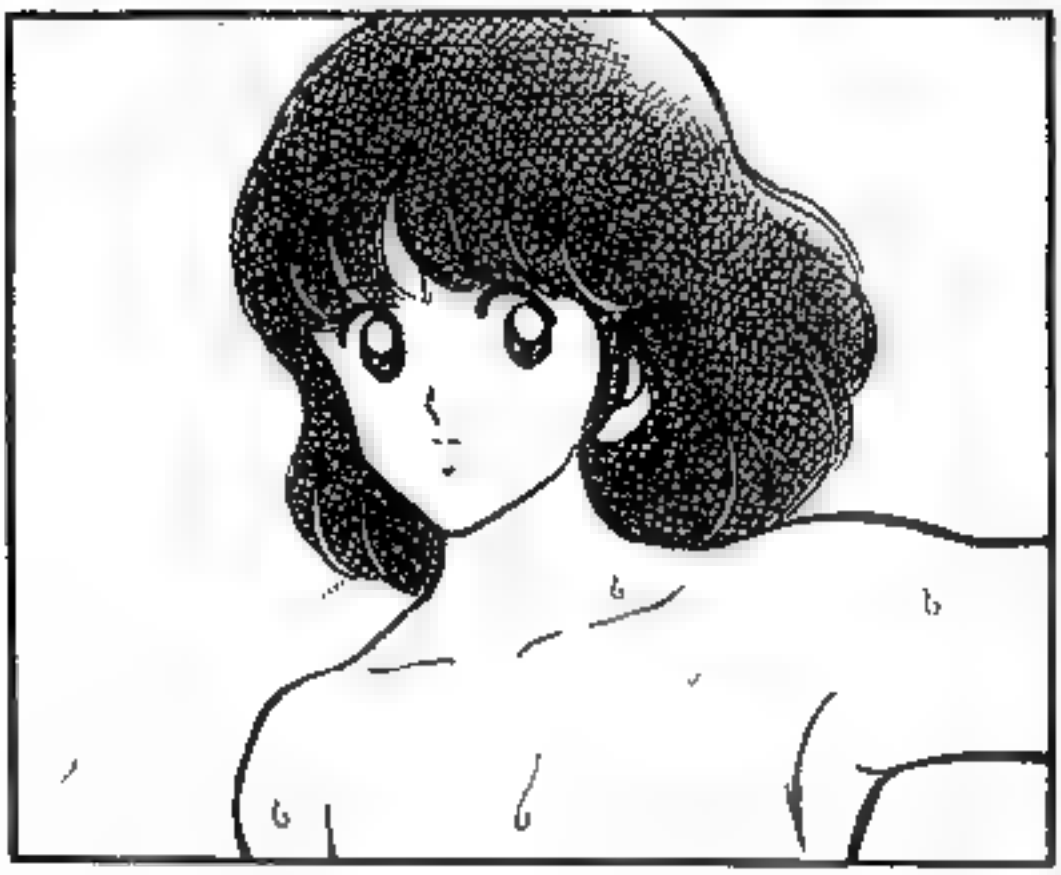
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SEE... 'CAUSE THAT'S FROSTED GLASS.

SHUT UP.

ARF ARF

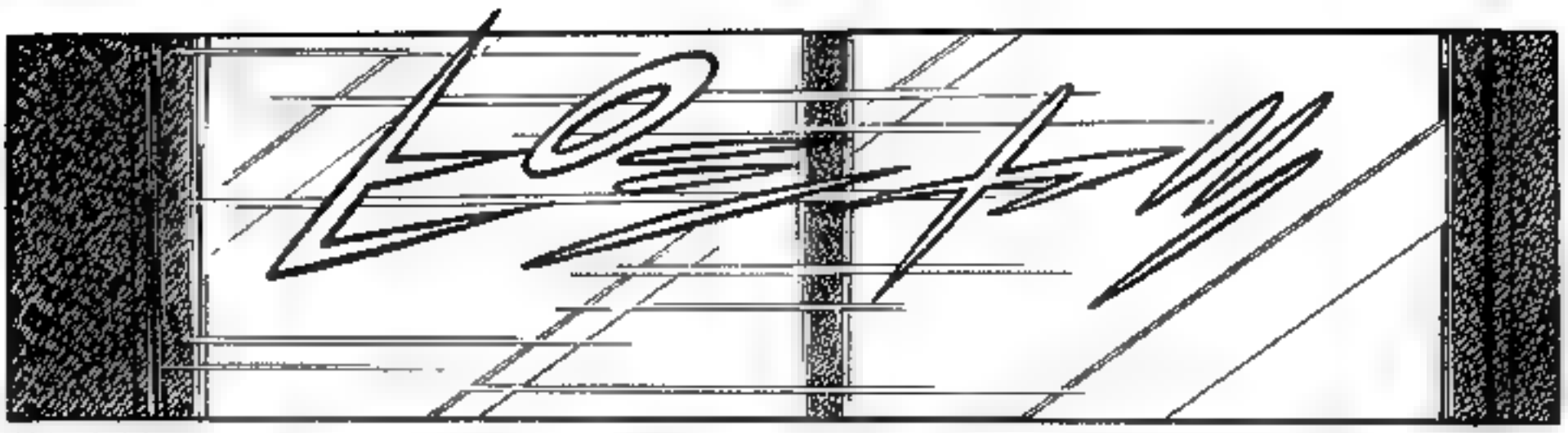
ARF?

SFX: <ARF ARF>

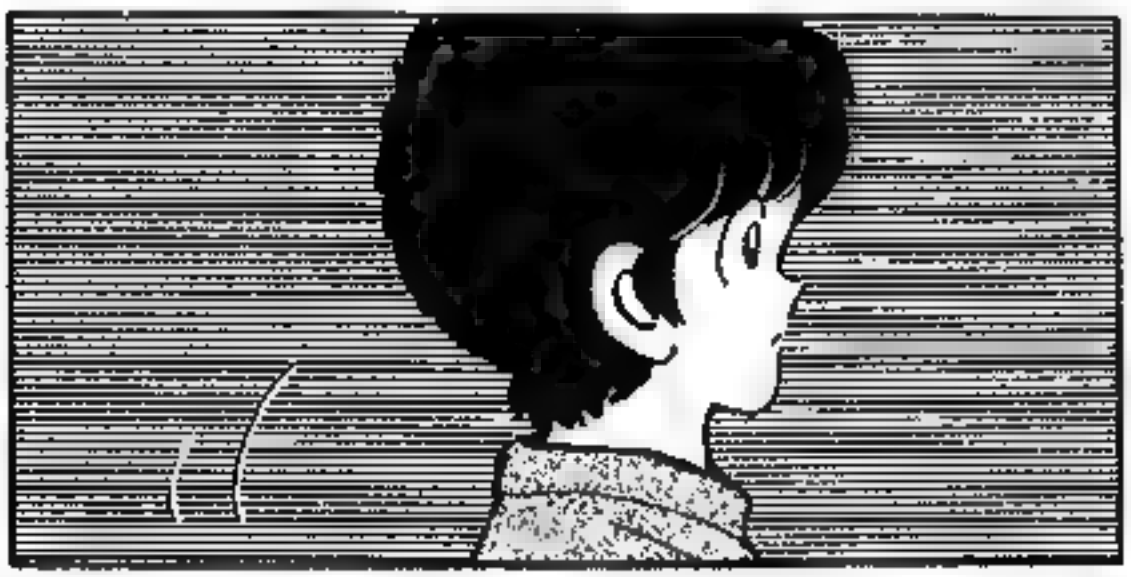


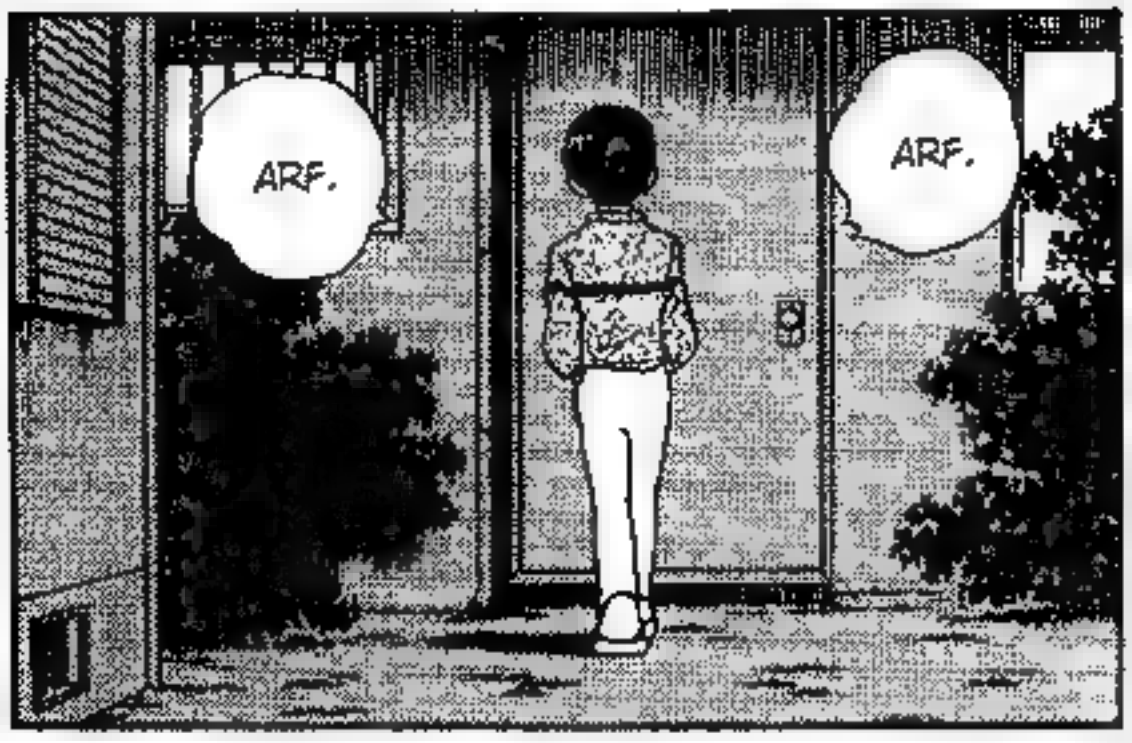
RATTLE

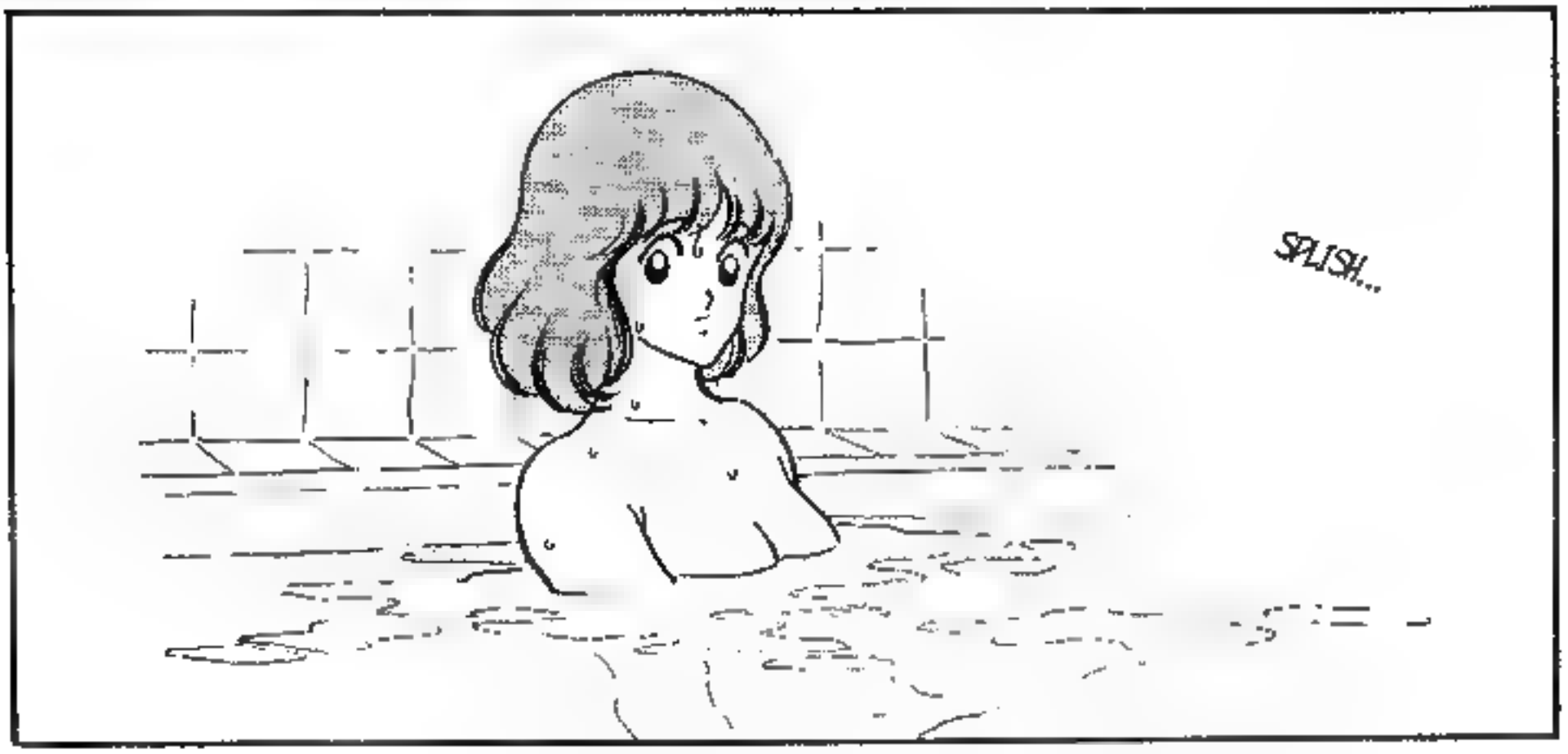
SHUT UP, PUNCH!



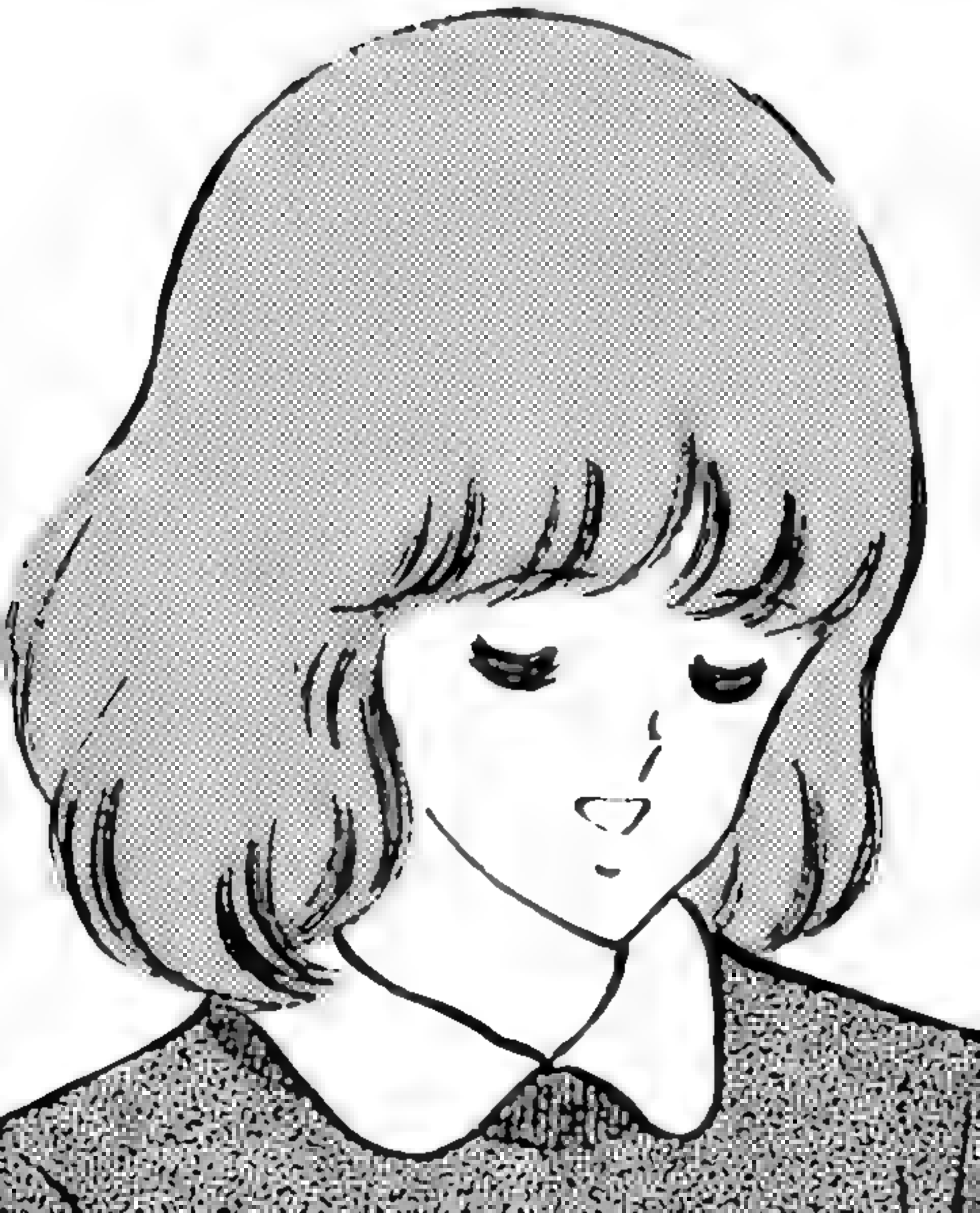
SFX: <SLAM>







Heyyy, Minami



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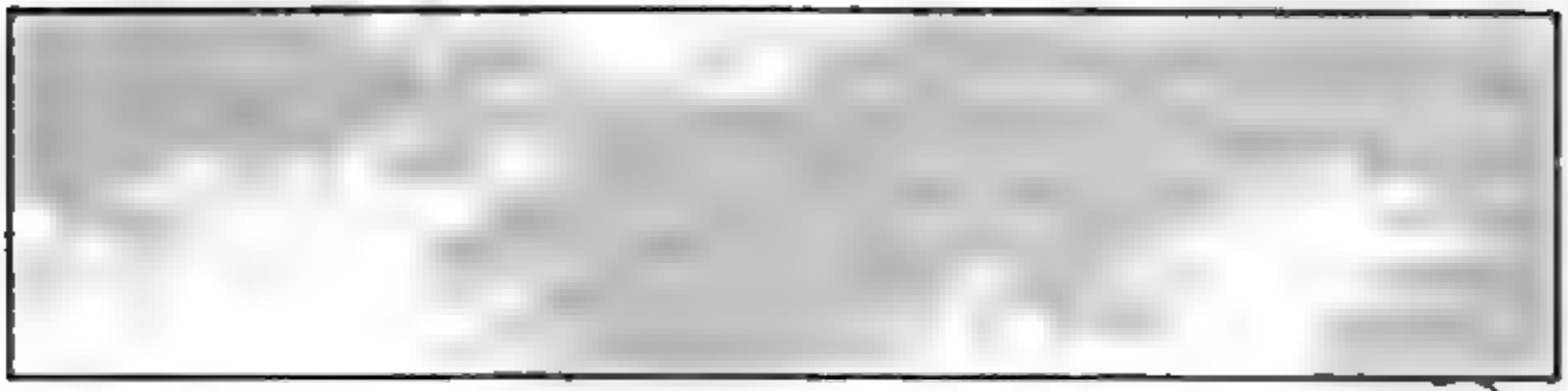


OKAY!

LOVE

5!

6!

7!

8!

5!

6!

3!

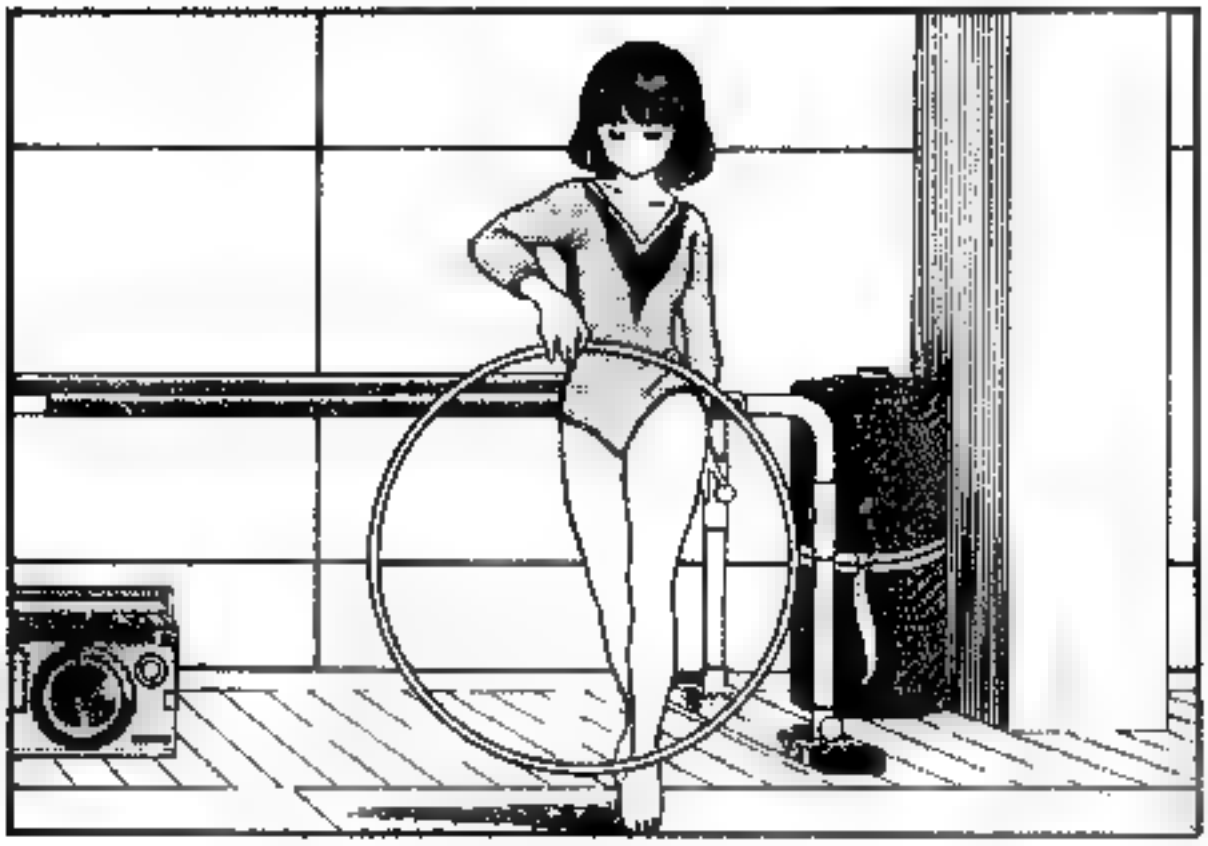
4!

1!

2!

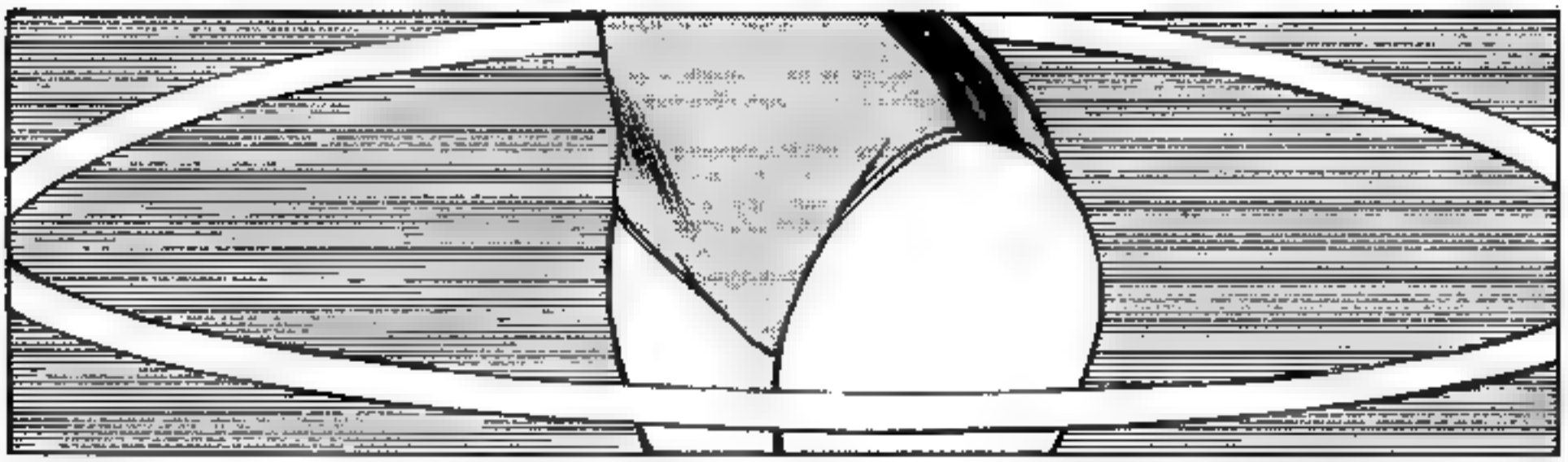
7!

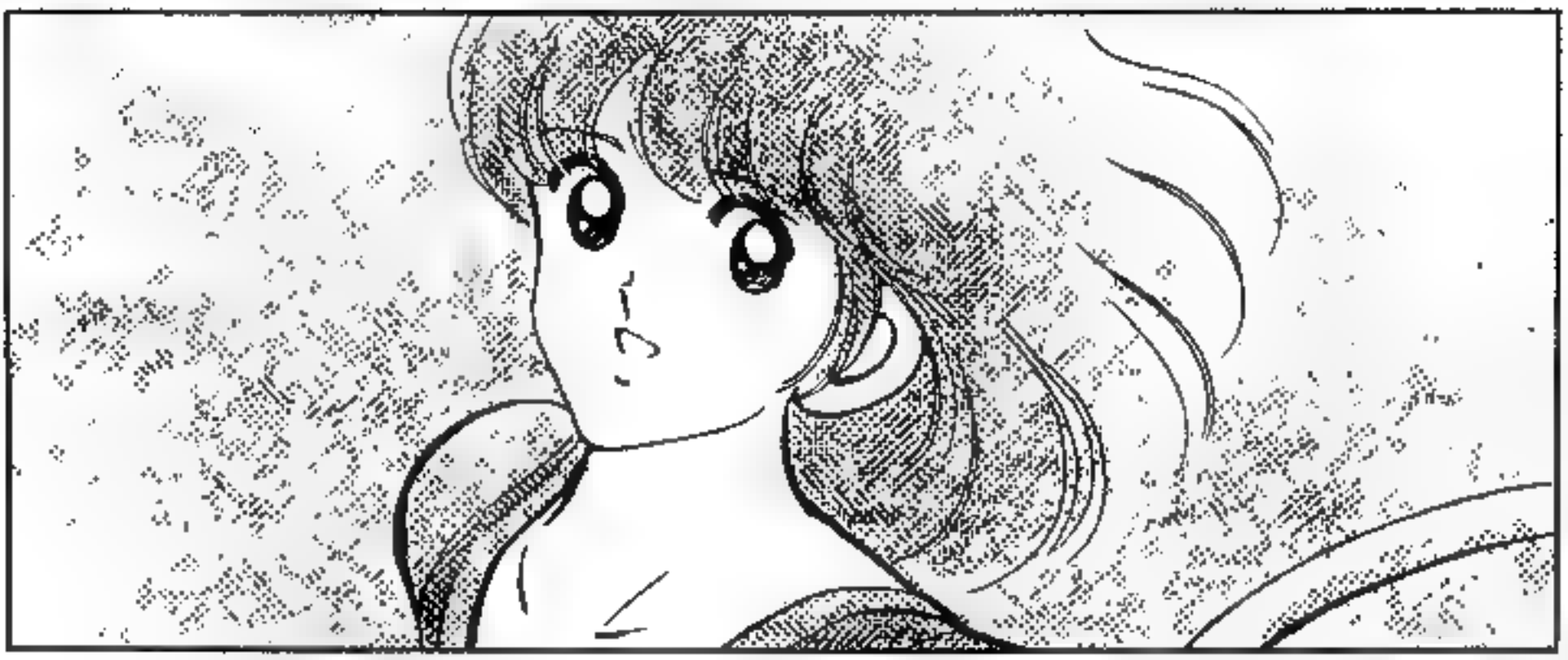
8!



LOVE

YE-E-ES!
KEEP GOING, KEEP GOING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HEY, HEY.



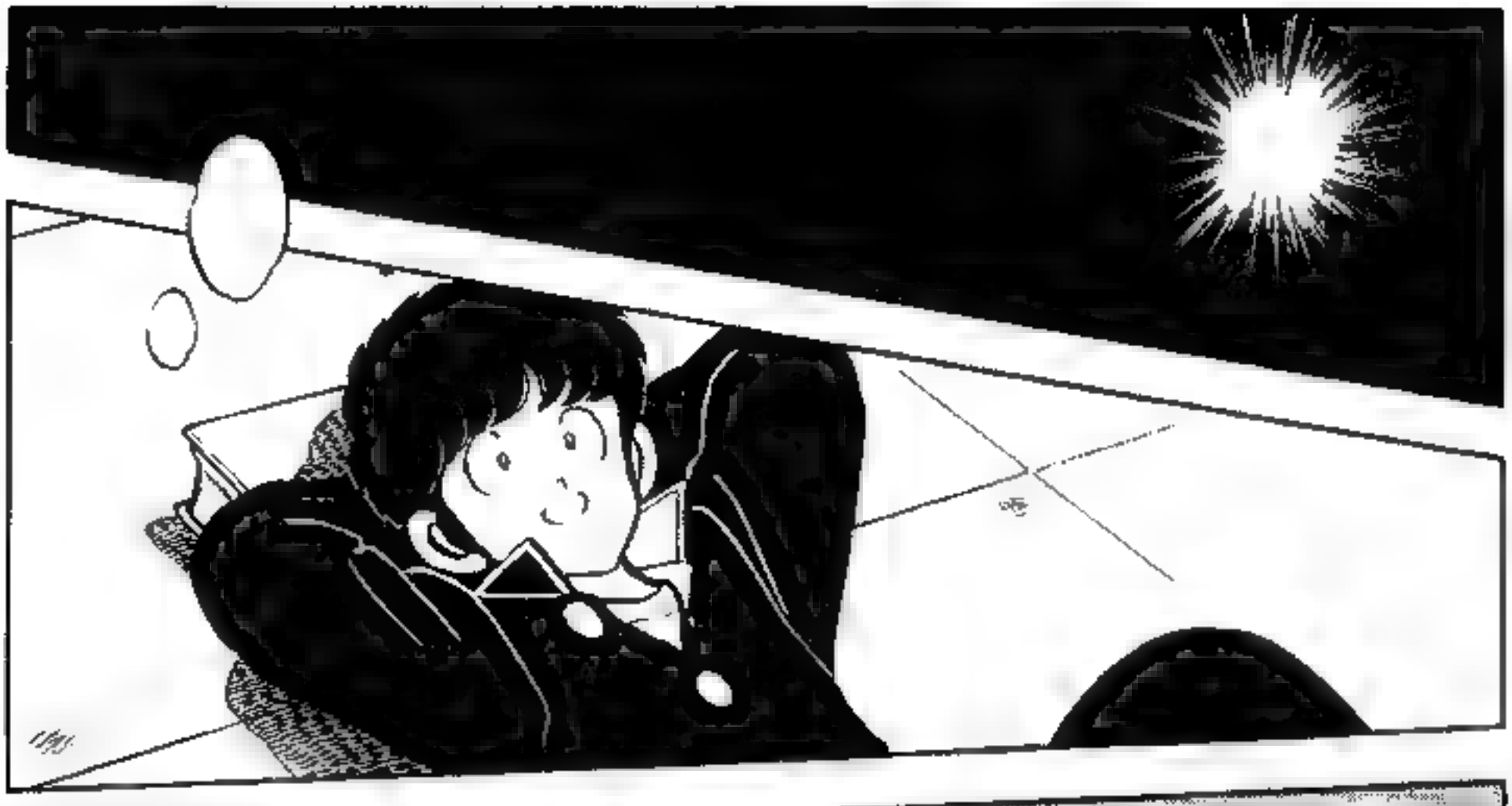


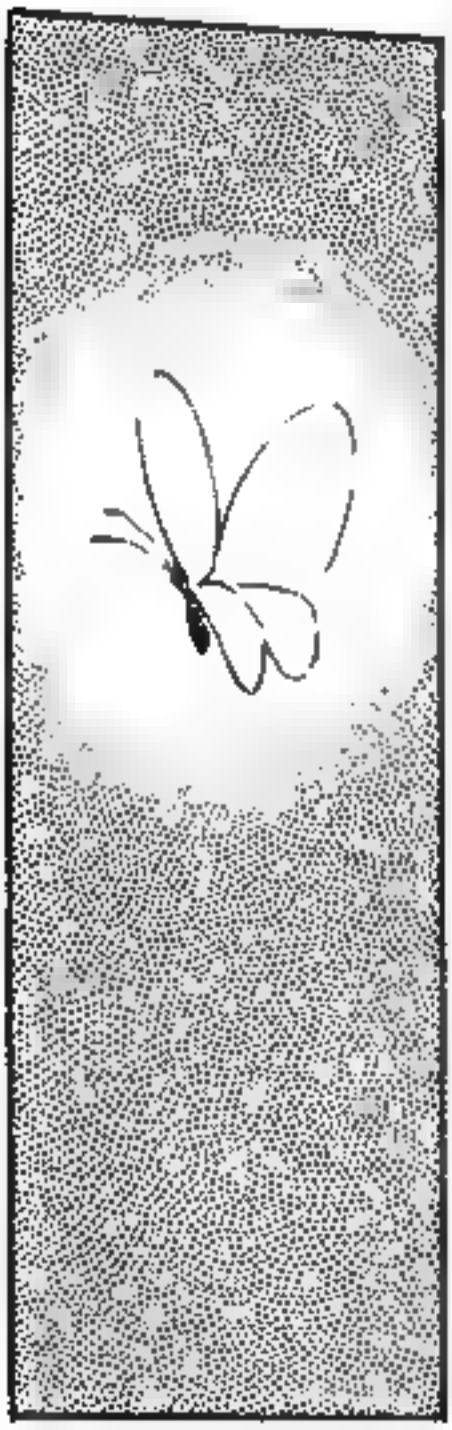
HEYYY, MINAMI-I-I.

LET'S GO OUT TO PLAY!

MINAMI ?

MINAMI-I-I!





UESUGI-!-!!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING !?

PRACTICE IS STARTING !!

RIGHT.

SFX. <CLINK?

HEY, YOU'RE LATE!

SORRY.

SFX. <WHAP>

.....

THE WEATHER'S NICE, SO YOU HAD A NICE DREAM, RIGHT?

INDEED.

THAT IDIOT!

HE WAS ON THE ROOF SLEEPING ...

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT.

NOT AT ALL...

THANK YOU.

QUICK REACTIONS TOO.

YOU MOVE WELL!!

.....

WHY JOIN THE BASEBALL TEAM NOW?

CLINK

I'M IN YOUR HANDS.

WE HAVE A NEW GUY NOW!!

YOU HADN'T PLAYED ON A PROPER TEAM EITHER, RIGHT, UESUGI-KUN?

YOU HAVE BASEBALL EXPERIENCE ?

YOU DID IT RECENTLY TOO, DIDN'T YOU UESUGI-KUN?

JOINED THE TEAM.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT I DID!

BUT I WANT TO BE JUST LIKE YOU, UESUGI-KUN.

DUMMY. YOUR DREAM IS SO SMALL.

CHOP

I THINK DOING THAT WILL BE THE BEST WAY TO MAKE MYSELF GROW UP.

I'D LIKE TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER, UESUGI-KUN.

KOU-TAROU!

WHAT!?

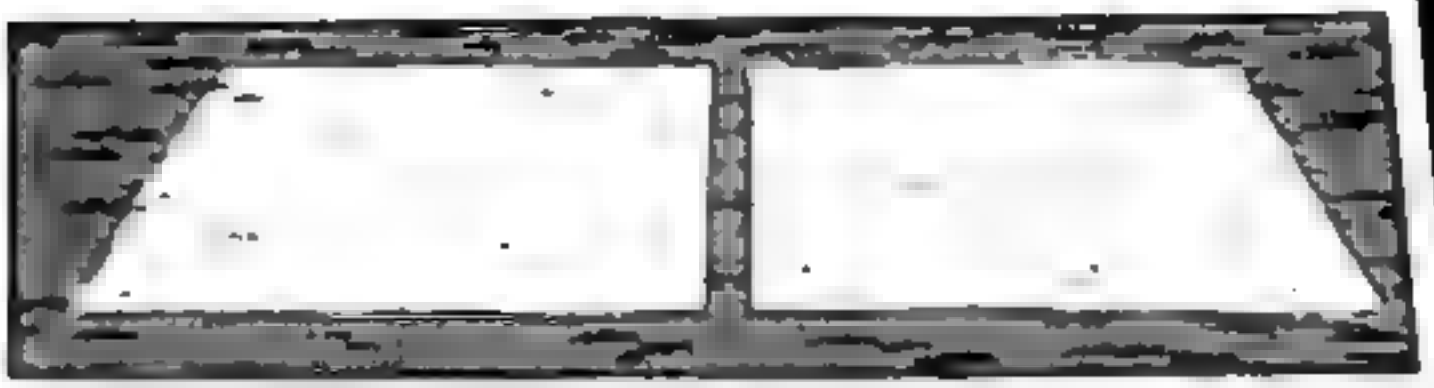
'CAUSE A CATER-PILLAR CAN'T GO THAT FAR.

YOU CAN EASILY CATCH UP TO ME.

HUH?

THAT'S NOT TRUE

SFX: <SPLAT>



MAYBE THE KANTO AREA MEET...

IF YOU WIN AT THE CITY-WIDE MEET, THEN...

WHAT'S NEXT?

LET'S SEE... THERE'S THE INTER-HIGHS...

AND THE NATIONALS ...

AND THEN?

HMM ...

体育

BEYOND THAT, I'M WORRIED BY WHAT EVERYONE IS EXPECTING OF ME.

IT'S TOUGH JUST BEING CHOSEN TO BE AMONG THEM!!

THERE ARE A LOT OF TERRIFIC GYMNASTS JUST IN THIS CITY

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD GO THAT FAR.

HOW SILLY.

BUT WHEN THE CITY-WIDE ATHLETICS MEET IS OVER, I'LL DEVOTE MYSELF TO BEING THE BASEBALL MANAGER.

NOT THAT I'M FEELING CONCERN ...

ALL RIGHT.

HOME-WORK'S DONE.

HEY, HEY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK.

AH ...

PUNCH

DONE?

HM?

WELL, WELL... MAYBE I'LL GO TO SLEEP.

YAAAWN ...

AH ...

THANK YOU.

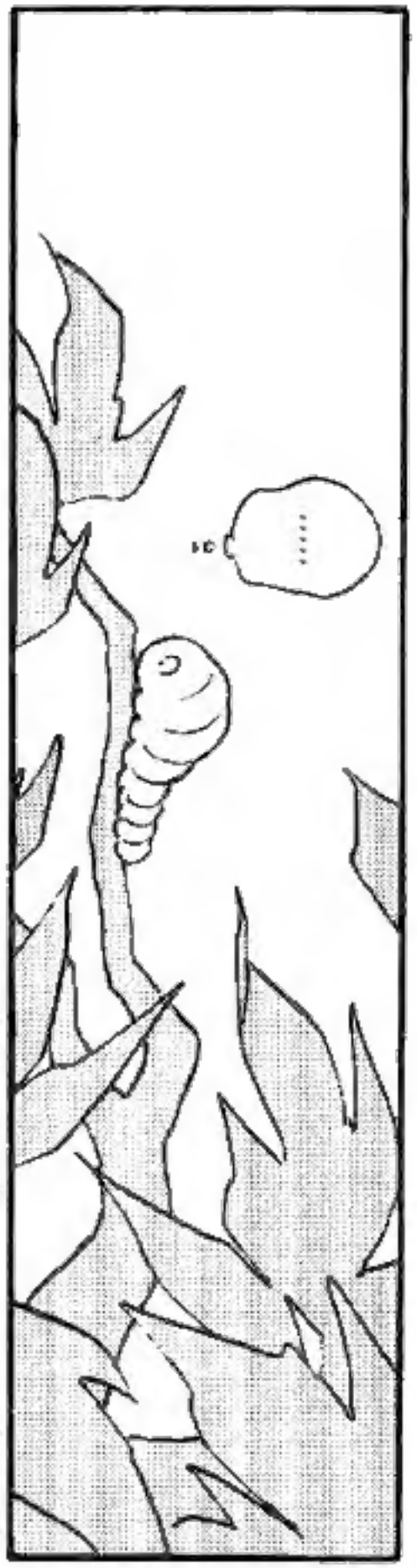
DON'T RUSH OFF TOO FAR.

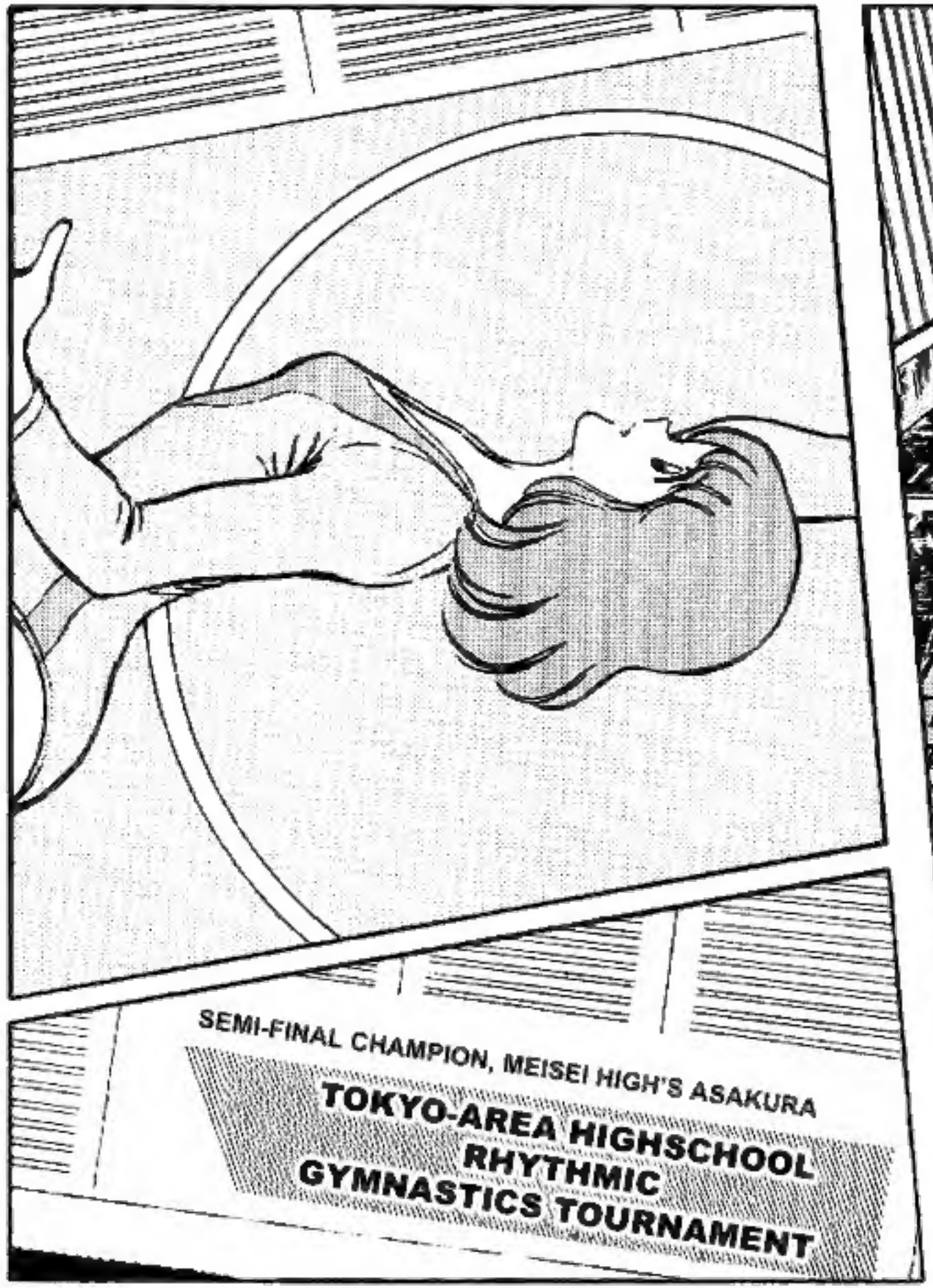
SWISH

GOOD NIGHT ...

TAP

GOOD NIGHT.




SEMI-FINAL CHAMPION, MEISEI HIGH'S ASAKURA
TOKYO-AREA HIGHSCHOOL
RHYTHMIC
GYMNASTICS TOURNAMENT